DELIGHTFUL DANUBE & PRAGUE

10 Days | Budapest to Prague

★★★★★ 4.5/5 491 reviews









4 countries

UNESCO



Our Jewish Heritage Program is the only one of its kind on the rivers and allows you to dive into Central Europe's enduring Jewish legacy with visits to museums, memorials, synagogues and more.

Jewish Heritage

This extraordinary journey for aficionados of European history, music and art receives the perfect complement with a hotel stay in Prague.

Experience dynamic Budapest, imperial Vienna and exquisitely preserved Prague. Marvel at ravishing scenery as your luxurious ship glides through the Wachau Valley, celebrated as one of the world's most beautiful landscapes, into Germany and past charming Bavarian villages. Exclusive treasures are plentiful on this delightful journey.

This enchanting voyage provides a variety of ways to enjoy captivating destinations as well as plenty of time to relax onboard as you sail from Budapest to Nuremberg and spend two nights onshore in Prague.

Jewish Heritage Program (select sailings): Our Jewish Heritage Program is the only one of its kind on the rivers and allows you to dive into Central Europe's enduring Jewish legacy with visits to museums, memorials, synagogues and more. *Please note: some sites may be closed for inside viewing during the High Holidays, Passover and other significant events.*

BUDAPEST TO PRAGUE

Note: The itineraries presented are subject to modification due to water levels, closures because of public holidays or other uncontrollable factors. Every effort will be made to operate programs as planned, but changes may still be necessary throughout the cruise. This day-to-day schedule is subject to change. Your final day-to-day schedule will be provided onboard on the first day of your cruise.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION BUDAPEST PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

Bisected by the Danube, Budapest combines old and new, East and West with vibrant and inviting grace. Made up of two parts—Buda, on the east side of the river, and Pest, on the west the city offers dazzling architecture, welcoming cafés and startling reminders of both recent and long-ago history.

- 2 nights at the Kempinski Hotel Corvinus Budapest (or similar)
- Breakfast daily and all service charges, taxes, and porterage
- Budapest Walking Tour with Rock Hospital
- English-speaking expert
- All transfers

Click here for full details.

DAY 1 BUDAPEST (EMBARK)

Arrive at Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport. If your cruise/tour package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship.

Note: For Arrival, Departure and Transfer details, please visit Uniworld.com/transfers. For Port Location details, please visit Uniworld.com/ports.





DAY 2 BUDAPEST

Located on opposite sides of the Danube, Buda and Pest each has a distinctive character and allure all its own. Explore this dynamic and multi-faceted city with your choice of excursions you can see it from a local's perspective on a walking tour, or cover more ground with a panoramic tour. Or choose our Jewish Heritage excursion offering you a detailed introduction to Jewish Budapest.

In the evening, a special Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you.





Choose between...

BUDAPEST PANORAMIC HIGHLIGHTS WITH ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL

Drive along one of the prettiest streets in Budapest, Andrassy Ave, on your way to the St. Stephen's Cathedral. Andrassy Ave is a broad promenade of breathtaking neo-Renaissance architecture and home to many of Budapest's must-see sites.

You will get off the coach near St. Stephen's Cathedral to visit this beautiful Catholic church. St. Stephen's Basilica, the largest church in Budapest, is dedicated to St. Stephen, the first King of Hungary. Its towers and domes feature prominently in the Pest skyline. The interior of the

cathedral is a masterpiece of dramatic arches, marble and liberally applied gilding. Inside you'll find one of Hungary's most sacred artifacts, the Szent Jobb—meaning "Holy Right Hand"—is the mummified right hand of St. Stephen.



BUDAPEST WALK WITH LOCAL TREATS

Today your guide will show you how to snack around Budapest like a local, starting with a tram ride to the House of Parliament. Hop off the tram and take a short walk to your first treat: a coffee break at the First Strudel House of Pest. Energized by your cup of coffee, you'll continue your walk down to St. Stephen's Basilica—a handsome Neo-Classical building that is one of Budapest's most significant cultural sites.

From there, we'll head to the Great Market Hall to sample some traditional Hungarian fare, such as salami, sausages and cheese, while your local expert explains the intricacies of Hungarian cuisine.



JEWISH BUDAPEST

On your way into the Jewish Quarter, take a panoramic drive along the UNESCO-designated Andrassy Avenue. Among its beautiful neo-Renaissance architecture are such sites as Heroes' Square, the Franz Liszt Memorial House, the House of Terror, and the Castle District. You will get off the coach for a tour of the Holocaust Museum and Research center. As part of this tour, you will get to visit the museum's synagogue, the only one open on Saturdays and holidays. After, make your way to the river to see "Shoes on the Danube," a memorial to the 3,500 lives lost—800 of them Jewish Hungarians—to the Arrow Cross militia during World War II. Next, we'll set out on a walking tour through the Jewish Quarter, passing significant sites such as the Great Synagogue, mikveh, and morel on your way to a local cafe, where you'll finish your tour with a little treat. Alongside a cup of coffee or tea, you'll try *flodni*, a classic Hungarian-Jewish pastry, filled with layers of poppy seed, walnut, apple, and plum jam.

Our Jewish Heritage Program allows you to dive into Central Europe's enduring Jewish legacy with visits to museums, memorials, synagogues and more.



DAY 3 VIENNA

The grand dame of the Danube, Vienna was the heart of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and remains, to this day, the political and cultural center of Austria. Klimt painted here; Beethoven and Mozart composed here; Freud developed his theories here. It's a treasure trove of splendid architecture, astonishing art collections and inviting cafés—and today it is yours to explore. A city tour will show you the architectural highlights of the Austrian capital as well as the legendary Belvedere Palace. Or, indulge your passion for fine art and fine food with a fascinating and memorable panoramic tour. Or explore Jewish Vienna via our Jewish Heritage excursion.





Choose between...

KLIMT AT THE BELVEDERE

The Belvedere is a Baroque palatial complex commissioned during an immensely productive Habsburg building spree. Originally the summer residence of Prince Eugene of Savoy, the complex was acquired by Empress Maria Theresa after his death and turned into an exhibition venue for imperial art collections. In this way, The Belvedere become one of the first public museums in the world. Today it is one of the finest art collections anywhere, making it an incredibly popular destination for Vienna tourism. Take a tour of the Upper Belvedere exhibits, including the world's largest collection of works by Austrian artist Gustav Klimt. His most famous work, *"The Kiss,"* is on display here.



VIENNA'S HISTORIC TRAILS AND LOCAL TREATS

In many ways a must-visit destination for both the art lover and the gourmand, Vienna is full of artistic and culinary treasures. Today's walking tour is all about immersing ourselves in that side of this beautiful city.

Our menu for the day includes a stop for coffee and strudel at a local coffee house—a hallmark of Viennese culture—and a glass of Viennese wine from one of the city's oldest cellars. These treats will fuel our walks to see the Kinsky Palace, the statues of the Heldenplatz, St. Stephen's Cathedral, and more.



JEWISH VIENNA

Explore the "City of Waltzes" from a Jewish heritage perspective on today's outing. Beginning at the Judenplatz, you'll learn about the community's history and follow in the footsteps of some of the most internationally well-known figures. Your guide will take you by the Shoah Monument and Jewish museum, then stop at the Stadttempel, Vienna's main temple and the only synagogue to have survived the "Night of Broken Glass"—a pogrom against Jews throughout Nazi Germany, Austria and other areas in the region. This temple dates back to 1826 and is the only synagogue in Vienna built in the simple, yet elegant, "Biedermeier Style." *Note: The synagogue will not be available for visits on Jewish holidays; if unavailable, we will visit the Vienna Jewish Museum instead.*

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Masterpiece Collection

Providing the most all-inclusive luxury to our guests is the heart and soul of our brand and that will never change. Yet sometimes our guests want something that goes even "above and beyond" our included experiences. In light of this, we now offer guests a curated selection of optional excursions, available for an additional charge.

SCHÖNBRUNN WITH STRUDEL SHOW







Embrace the imperial flair of Vienna with a visit to the famous Schönbrunn Palace complex. Arrive to marvel at the massive Baroque building with it's iconic yellow exteriors and head straight to the East Wing, where you'll find Cafe Residenz. Housed in the former kitchens for the palace guard, this elegant Viennese coffee shop and restaurant prepares the same traditional strudel recipe once used by the imperial palace bakers. Today, their pastry chef will demonstrate the laborious process of preparing this pastry. To get a perfectly smooth, elastic dough, a particularly rigorous kneading method is required. The dough is then rolled paper thin and topped with apple fling, and the entire pastry is then rolled up to create the characteristic spiral pattern that appears when sliced after baking. You'll leave this demonstration with your own copy of the original recipe. After the Strudel show, enjoy a guided visit of the palace. Stroll hallways elaborately decorated with golden stucco, rich velvet and stunning frescoes. This palace complex was the primary summer residence of the Habsburgs and features many testaments to their history and extravagance.

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DAY 4 KREMS

You'll want to find a comfortable seat in the lounge or on the Sun Deck this afternoon as your ship cruises through the Wachau Valley. Over the eons, the Danube cut a gorge through the foothills of the Bohemian mountains, resulting in a 19-mile (30-kilometer) stretch of riverine scenery so beautiful, UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Landscape. Castle ruins dominate hilltops; baroque church towers appear on the riverbanks, marking historic villages and splendid abbeys; and apricot orchards and vineyards cling to the rocky slopes. Some of Austria's finest white wines are produced from grapes ripening on the dry-stone terraces above the river, where grapes have been grown for 2,000 years. Your ship will dock in Krems, midway through this glorious landscape.





Choose between...

STETTELDORF CASTLE VISIT

Schloss Stetteldorf, also known as Juliusburg Castle, sits right on the edge of the Wagram in Lower Austria. The castle was constructed in 1588 for Count Julius II zu Hardegg. Over the years, his descendants added to the stately residence, beautifying its gardens, adding a fresco to the ballroom, carving a moat, and more. Meet the current residents to see how they are continuing to renovate the castle on a tour that includes a chance to taste some of what they grow in their gardens.



TREASURES OF THE WACHAU VALLEY

Drive from Emmersdorf to the attractive town of Spitz, and take note of the vine-covered hill rising above the town on your way in. A famous local landmark, this hill is the source of much of the town's grapes. Wine is one of Spitz's most important local products, alongside apricots. You'll taste both of these today, starting with a variety of apricot treats upon your arrival. Visit the shipping and maritime museum in town before meeting a local guide who will take you on a walk through the charming village they call home, during which you'll get a local's perspective on life in Spitz and the Wachau Valley.

After the walk, return to Krems, where a local wine expert will be waiting to guide you through a wine tasting onboard.

DAY 5 ENGELHARTSZELL, PASSAU

Your ship cruises through a scenic highlight of the Danube early this morning, the Schlögener Schlinge—a hairpin loop in the Danube that was once very hazardous for ships and is now a lovely, serene stretch of water—and leaves Austria behind today. Your first German port of call is Passau, where three rivers meet—the Inn, the Ilz and the Danube—and three nations almost meet: Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic, making for a fascinating cultural mosaic. Get to know the town and its main claim to fame, Europe's largest pipe organ, or join an invigorating riverside bike ride.



Featured Excursions

LET'S GO: SCENIC BAVARIAN RIVER BIKING

Set off on an invigorating bike ride from Engelhartszell to Passau, led by an experienced professional bike guide. Wind your way through the lovely countryside, along the Danube's right side, into the picturesque Danube Valley. These particular landscapes are some of the most beautiful in all of Europe—characterized by expansive vineyards, tree-lined slopes, and castle-dotted hillsides—and seamlessly blend the region's cultural, historical and natural components together. Pedal onwards toward Passau, past more charming villages, meadows and orchards, rounding out your trip in Passau's Old Town.

VILLAGE DAY: PASSAU

You'll have the opportunity to choose one of four different ways to immerse yourself in this wonderful city today, learning about local people, trades and pastimes. Your first option, a visit to a berry farm on a mission to provide good work for people with disabilities. There, you'll be taken on a tour of the farm and enjoy a tasting of its products, such as jams and vinegars. With another option, you'll meet a family from Passau as you're invited into their home. Your host may welcome you with food, drinks and or stories about their life in the city. At still another, we'll mingle with people at work around town, including an artist, a pub owner and others.

And finally, you may opt to set out on a hike popular with locals. Take in Passau's best scenery as you stop at a castle—the Veste Oberhaus—and the Triftsperre nature reserve, then walk along the Ilz river delta.

DAY 6 REGENSBURG

Bavaria's first capital, Regensburg, owes its impressive historical lineage and rich architectural heritage to 600 years as a Free Imperial City, a fact recognized by UNESCO in 2006. Today, you'll discover how the beautifully preserved medieval city coexists with a vibrant modern urban

A special Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you this evening.





Featured Excursion

THE GIANT SPHERE OF BAVARIA

Take a short drive to the Upper Palatinate Lake District to find something entirely unexpected: a giant wooden ball sitting right in the middle of the serene landscape. Made up of twisting walkable paths, this "adventure ball" is the largest of its kind in the whole world. Walk to the top of the ball for amazing views of the lake. After, take a short hike to the lakefront to discuss local plants, fish, and conservation with an expert guide. You'll learn about how a passion for sustainability shapes the farming and building efforts in the area, and see some of the interesting Eco Houses that have been built at the lake.

This MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience supports Global Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; and Global Goal 13: Climate Action.

Our MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences support sustainable tourism, offering our guests opportunities to directly impact the communities we explore in a positive way.



MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences

Choose between...

REGENSBURG WALK WITH THURN AND TAXIS CASTLE VISIT

Begin this three-hour excursion with a visit to the city center of Regensburg's Old Town, which has much to offer including the Porta Praetoria Roman ruins, the Old Stone Bridge, St. Peter's Cathedral, medieval patrician towers and the former Jewish Quarter among many other sights. Next, take a short walk to the Princely House of Thurn and Taxis. The family estate is difficult to miss: at over 1,000 years old, the mansion boasts over 500 rooms complete with chandeliers, gold leafing, incredible art and architectural touches to make it truly a sight to behold. The palace has an incredible history and stands as a tale of revival, endurance and baroque style. What's even more spectacular? The palace has a long list of celebrities who have stayed within its walls: Mick Jagger, Michael Jackson, Steve Martin, Plácido Domingo and more. These walls may not be able to talk, but if they could they would surely say, "Come see us for yourself!"



JEWISH REGENSBURG

Join your local guide for a walking tour through the delightfully medieval town of Regensburg. Stroll over the Iron Bridge and on to the magnificent Stone Bridge, and pass by the architectural Gothic masterpiece of St. Peter's Cathedral. Regensburg is the oldest documented settlement of Jewish people in Germany and your walk through the former Jewish Quarter (Neupfarrplatz) will introduce you to their enduring legacy here. See the Dani Karavan

Monument memorializing the original Regensburg Synagogue and visit Oskar Schindler's house.

Make your way to the New Synagogue for a presentation about Jewish culture and history in Regensburg.

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WELTENBURG ABBEY BEER







You'll find that some of the finest brews and Europe are produced by the humble monks and nuns of the continent's many abbeys. Visit the Weltenburg Abbey today to learn about monastic brewing at the oldest such establishment in the world. Founded in the year 600, the abbey sits at the mouth of the Danube Gorge, making for a charming locale in which to enjoy a history lesson and a beer.

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DAY 7 CRUISING THE MAIN-DANUBE CANAL, NUREMBERG

Onboard, come out on deck or find a window seat where you can watch the ship navigate a series of locks as it travels across the "continental divide" and through one of the modern world's greatest feats of engineering—the Main-Danube canal.

This evening, you'll have the opportunity to join us on a special *Nights Out* private tour of the Faber-Castell factory near Nuremberg.

Featured Excursion

NIGHTS OUT: FABER-CASTELL VISIT

Faber-Castell, established in 1761, is the world's leading manufacturer of wood-cased pencils with a varied range of products for writing, drawing and creative design. The Faber-Castell headquarters make for a unique and fascinating expedition, with a collection of factory buildings, mansions and parklands spread out across the expansive property. Our guests will be hosted for a private evening experience, after the headquarters have closed to the public.

Please note: this excursion is only available on the Budapest to Prague and cruise-only Budapest to Nuremberg routes.

DAY 8 NUREMBERG (DISEMBARK), TRANSFER TO PRAGUE

Disembark the ship early and set your sights on the "city of a hundred spires" as you transfer to Prague via motorcoach.





DAY 9 PRAGUE

A magnet for generations of artists, writers, scientists and composers, Prague is famous for its dynamic energy and elegant ambiance (and the beers here are pretty amazing too). A thousand years of architecture, from ornate Gothic to fanciful postmodern, has been beautifully preserved here.





Choose between...

PRAGUE OLD TOWN & CASTLE DISTRICT



TEREZIN & CONCENTRATION CAMP

In 1940, the Nazis turned a former garrison into a ghetto, cramming more than 140,000 Jews into it, where many died of disease or starvation. More, however, were transported to and perished in Auschwitz-Birkenau or other concentration camps. Theresienstadt is particularly well known for the 6,000 drawings made by interned children that were found after the war. You'll see the Jewish cemetery, ghetto, and crematorium in the Large Fortress, along with the Ghetto Museum and, elsewhere, the central morgue, columbarium, and the Small Fortress; just outside its walls is a cemetery where thousands of political prisoners are buried.

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DAY 10 DEPART PRAGUE

You've experienced the best of the Danube River and Prague, sampling myriad culinary delights and exploring fascinating stops along the way. Now your journey comes to a close. If your cruise/tour includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Prague Václav Havel Airport for your flight home. Your Uniworld adventure may be over, but we know you'll enjoy the memories you've made for years to come.



WHAT'S INCLUDED



DINING

All meals onboard, prepared using the finest and freshest ingredients

9 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners

Welcome and Farewell Gala Dinners

Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions

Unlimited beverages onboard, including fine wine, beer, spirits, specialty coffee and tea, soft drinks and mineral water



EXCURSIONS

7 days of excursions, including "Choice Is Yours" options, all fully hosted by English-speaking local experts

Guided "Let's Go" program

State-of-the-art Quietvox portable audio-headset system on all excursions

Use of bicycles and Nordic walking sticks throughout your cruise



ACCOMMODATIONS

7-night cruise in a riverview stateroom on the stunning *River Duchess*

2 nights in Prague at the Art Deco Imperial Hotel (or similar) with breakfast

Lavishly appointed riverview staterooms and suites have handcrafted Savoir® Beds of England, high thread count 100% Egyptian cotton sheets and European duvets, and a menu of pillow options

Free Internet and Wi-Fi access



EXPERIENCES

4 countries: Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary

5 UNESCO World Heritage sites

Group Transfers are included on arrival and departure days (please see terms and conditions for transfer guidelines)

Gratuities for onboard personnel (ship staff, crew, Cruise/Tour Manager) are included during the cruise/tour

Services of an experienced Uniworld Cruise Manager