

9 Days Danube Symphony River Cruise

Munich to Vienna



Your adventure begins with 3 nights in the magnificent city of Munich, capital of Bavaria, Germany, and ends in romantic Vienna, the capital of Austria. From Munich, visit the most dream-like castles in all of Europe—Neuschwanstein Castle, and also Oberammergau, an idyllic village known for its once-a-decade performance of the Passion Play.



Included:

- Land: central hotel with breakfast.
- Cruise: full breakfast, lunch, and dinner, including Captain's welcome and farewell receptions with sparkling wine and canapés; daily afternoon tea, daily night fare, farewell dinner, complimentary sparkling wine with breakfast; wine, beer, or soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard
- Free bottled water daily.
- Club Lounge with 24-hour, self-serve beverage station with premium coffees, cappuccinos, lattes, hot chocolate & teas
- Cookies & fresh fruit available throughout the day.
- Free Wi-Fi throughout the ship.
- Premium L'Occitane bath products & hairdryer.
- Bathrobes & slippers.
- Flatscreen satellite TV with free movie channels.
- Individual climate control.
- Library with books, cards, and games.
- Local FavoritesSM onboard cultural & artisan experiences.
- Complimentary Nordic walking sticks.
- Complimentary Bicycles available for time on shore.
- Included sightseeing with headsets by Certified Local Guides.

Highlights & Sightseeing:

CRUISE: Deluxe 3-night hotel in Munich, in city center **CRUISE:** Deluxe 5-night cruise from Passau to Vienna in an outside stateroom with hotel-style beds

MUNICH: guided sightseeing, see the Marienplatz; visit Neuschwanstein Castle; free time in Oberammergau

PASSAU: onboard welcome reception, guided walk LINZ-GREIN: guided walk in Linz; free time in Grein MELK-DURNSTEIN: guided visit of the Benedictine Abbey in Melk; guided walk in Dürnstein; wine tasting VIENNA: guided sightseeing

Itinerary

Day 01 Arrive in Munich, Germany

Welcome to Munich! The rest of the day is free to start exploring.

Day 02 Munich (B)

Munich, capital of Bavaria, offers a small-town feel with its pedestrian and bike-friendly atmosphere. With its historical museums, splendid English Garden, traditional cafés, and delightful shops, Munich has plenty to see and do. A LOCAL GUIDE will show you the highlights of this fascinating city, including Nymphenburg Palace, summer residence of the Bavarian monarchs; MARIENPLATZ with its Old and New Town Halls; and the gothic Frauenkirche, a prominent landmark for Munich. Then, enjoy time on your own in this vibrant city. Watch the famous Glockenspiel, recreating a royal wedding from the 16th century; enjoy the pedestrian zone; linger at an outdoor café; or visit St. Peter's, the oldest church in town. Why not visit the Viktualienmarkt with its Maypole that carries figurines featuring the arts and crafts of this region? This large market is popular for fresh produce, meats, cheeses, spices, baked goods, flowers, and more. Or, maybe relax alongside the locals at one of the Biergarten or breweries to sample Bavarian beer specialties.

Day 03 Munich. Excursion to Neuschwanstein & Oberammergau (B)

This morning, a full-day outing takes you into the garden-like landscapes of the Bavarian Alps for a visit to King Ludwig's fairytale NEUSCHWANSTEIN CASTLE, situated high above the village of Hohenschwangau. Continue to Oberammergau, famous for its once-a-decade production of the Passion Play. Enjoy free time in this small town to stroll along the streets and admire the typical Bavarian houses, many beautifully painted with scenes from fairytales.

Day 04 Munich-Passau (Embarkation) (B, D)

Enjoy a free morning in Munich, then, in the afternoon, drive to Passau, ideally located at the confluence of the Rivers Inn, Ilz, and Danube. Alternatively, you might like to join a full-day optional excursion to Salzburg, which will end in Passau with embarkation on your ship. Meet your crew at a welcome reception this evening.

Day 05 Passau-Linz, Austria (B, L, D)

Passau is a maze of narrow cobblestone streets lined with beautiful patrician houses, and dominated by St. Stephen's Cathedral, a masterpiece of Italian baroque architecture. Join your Local Guide for a WALKING TOUR through this charming town, and find out much more about the "City of Three Rivers."

Day 06 Linz-Grein (B, L, D)

Linz is Austria's third-largest city and an important river port where culture plays a significant role in everyday life. A guided tour of the city shows you the 13th-century Hauptplatz, Austria's largest medieval square, and the Trinity Column, built in 1723 as thanks for the city escaping the ravages of the plague, war, and fire. Perhaps wander around the old castle grounds and take in the beautiful views of the river, or visit the neo-gothic New Cathedral, Austria's largest church, with capacity for 20,000 visitors. This afternoon relax on board enjoying the views of the peaceful riverscapes from the comfort of the Sky Deck or join an optional excursion. In the late afternoon arrive in the attractive country resort of Grein, nestled at the foot of a bluff in the shadow of its castle. You'll have time here to explore on your own.

Day 07 Melk-Durnstein (B, L, D)

A day of charming towns and magical scenery awaits you today! Join a GUIDED VISIT of the magnificent 11th-century BENEDICTINE ABBEY of Melk, one of Europe's largest monasteries. Melk's abbey towers over the town and its church houses stunning frescoed ceilings and an ornate library with a large collection of medieval manuscripts. Next, head into the heart of the Wachau wine region to Dürnstein known for its magnificent baroque Stiftskirche with its blue façade, - and join a Certified Local Guide for a GUIDED WALK. This evening enjoy a TASTING of some of the region's famous wines.

Day 08 Vienna (B, L, D)

Wake up this morning in Vienna, known as the "City of Music" and the place that inspired the creative genius of Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss. Once the center of the mighty Habsburg Empire, Austria's magical capital on the blue Danube is a showcase of gilded architecture. This is home to the lavish Hofburg Imperial Palace complex with its Vienna Boys' Choir and dazzling Lipizzaner stallions; the neo-renaissance Vienna Opera House; and awe-inspiring St. Stephen's Cathedral—plus, countless other sights you'll see on your GUIDED SIGHTSEEING TOUR. Stroll through the pedestrian Kärntnerstrasse, and be sure to take a break and enjoy a piece of decadent Sachertorte or Apfelstrudel in a neighborhood café.

Day 09 Vienna (Disembarkation) (B)

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner,

*NOTE: In the event of water level problems or any problems of a technical nature, it may be necessary to operate the itinerary by motorcoach or to alter the program. Included visits and special features are subject to change. If a change becomes necessary, a substitute will be offered. Prices are per person, based on double occupancy, subject to change. Port charges are additional \$120 per person. Travel insurance is not included, we highly recommend you purchase the insurance for cancellation and medical protection. Please ask for details.



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