

European Jewels



15
DAYS

4
COUNTRIES

From exotic Budapest, “Queen of the Danube,” to imperial Vienna, “City of Waltzes,” to the sky-high spires of Cologne’s Gothic cathedral—centuries of intriguing history and culture unfold before your eyes. The Melk Abbey’s great library overlooking the Danube and the Würzburg Residence’s soaring ceiling fresco by Tiepolo will leave you mesmerized. And throughout your journey, tantalize your senses with exclusive wine, apricot brandy and beer tastings, along with regional culinary delicacies. Discover the grand sweep of history and the dynamic present along legendary rivers on a magnificent journey that gives you the best of Europe’s great treasures as well as off-the-beaten-path gems.



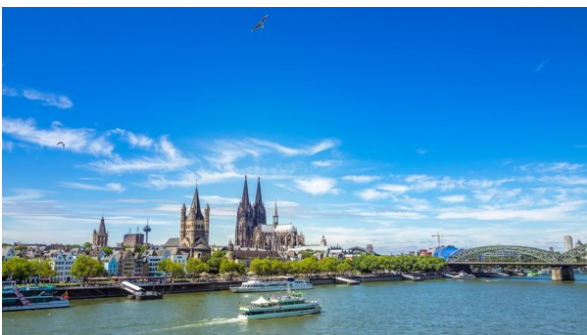
Amsterdam to Budapest

Day 1: Amsterdam (Embark)



Arrive at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol. If you have arranged a Uniworld arrival transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship.

Day 2: Cologne



Enjoy a delightful tour of Cologne's Old Town, where three medieval gates remain standing, as does the old city hall with its stunning Renaissance façade. Wander through the historical center and take in its charming atmosphere and narrow alleyways flanked by old houses. No matter how you choose to explore Old Town, you'll also have ample free time to explore the city on your own.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Cologne Walking Tour

Follow your guide around some of the most popular sites of Cologne, the largest city on the Rhine. You'll pass the old fish market, City Hall with its Renaissance façade, and the old Jewish mikvah (a bath used for ritual cleansing).

Meander through the narrow, cobbled lanes of Old Town, lined with traditional houses in every color and a plethora of restaurants and pubs. One of the city's 12 Romanesque churches provides a castle-like backdrop to this quaint, riverside quarter of Cologne.

Your local expert will take you all the way to the Domplatte, the square where you'll find the Cologne Cathedral. Should you wish, you can head inside this Gothic building on your own to see the Shrine of the Magi and the beautiful stained-glass windows. Otherwise, try asking your guide for tips on what to explore. Whatever your interests, our local expert knows all the best spots in town!

Day 3: Rüdesheim



Experience the most spectacular scenery on the Rhine this morning as you cruise past the famous Middle Rhine Valley. Later, experience Germany's fabled Rheingau in one of two ways today. Take in spectacular views of the region from the Rüdesheim mini-train, or venture within an atmospheric medieval monastery and taste the Rieslings made on site. Like many cities along the Rhine, Rüdesheim has a lengthy history that stretches back to Roman times. These days, the town is best known for its narrow avenue of shops and wine bars called the Drosselgasse and its impressive Niederwald Monument.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

The Rüdesheim Mini-Train

Board a little train for a charming ride through Rüdesheim. The train will pick you up outside the ship and begin a comprehensive drive through town, passing the famous Drosselgasse and other must-see sights along the way. Take note of your favorite spots as you go, because you'll have free time to explore on your own at the end of the ride.

Abbey Eberbach Medieval Monastery Tour with Riesling Tasting

Kloster Eberbach is a former Cistercian monastery built in the Romanesque and early Gothic style, and is considered one of the most significant architectural sites in the region. In fact, some of the interior scenes of the 1986 movie *The Name of the Rose*—based on the best-selling novel by Umberto Eco—were filmed here. You'll have a guided tour of the monastery followed by a tasting of locally grown Rieslings.

Day 4: Frankfurt (Heidelberg)



Vibrant Frankfurt, often referred to as the “Mainhattan” of Europe, boasts world-class museums, soaring skyscrapers, cozy wine taverns and lovely parks. Choose a brief tour that gives you an overview of this major European financial and trade center. Alternatively, visit romantic Heidelberg and its Renaissance castle.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Frankfurt Walking Tour with Local Treats

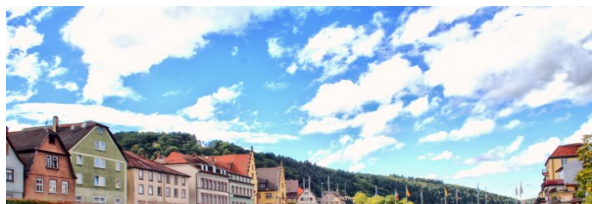
Meet your local guide outside the ship and get ready for a tasting tour of Frankfurt. Enjoy some iconic favorites, such as *grüne sosse*—a refreshing herb sauce—frankfurters, and apple wine as you make your way to the Hauptwache. This central plaza is full of places to shop and eat, so you may want to stick around after our tour.

Heidelberg Castle Visit

Walk up a cobblestone incline to Heidelberg Castle, where you'll have a guided tour of the courtyard and the Heidelberg Tun—the world's largest wine barrel. The views from the hilltop castle ruins, which greatly inspired writers and artists of the Romantic era, are simply spectacular. Later, enjoy a leisurely lunch and explore the culinary treasures and charming shops in town before boarding the coach back to your ship.

Note: lunch is not included with this excursion.

Day 5: Wertheim



After today, you may never eat a pretzel again without thinking of the town of Wertheim. You'll meet one of Germany's best pretzel makers, as well as the owner of a historic wine estate. If you're more in the mood for a



scenic hike, you are welcome to do that as well.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Wertheim Walk with Local Treats

This region of Bavaria is known for its amber-colored beer, spicy bratwurst, traditional soft pretzels, and unique wine bottles with short necks and round bodies—and you’ll encounter several of these local specialties today. First, though, you get to see a little of Wertheim itself. Despite centuries of flooding, a great deal of the Old Town remains. The Pointed Tower, used as a jail for drunkards and shrews in the 13th century, leans toward its neighbors, not from age but because flood waters have undermined it. It’s not the only architectural wonder you’ll see on your tour. You may choose to spend some leisure time in the village or head straight to nearby Kreuzwertheim, a wine-growing area, for a hike through the vineyards—your efforts will be rewarded with a glass of sparkling wine and a wonderful view of the Main River valley. Whichever option you select, your next stop is a historic winery that produces Franconian wines. Its charming sandstone architecture, vaulted cellars, and covered courtyard make for a delightful afternoon. You’ve probably tasted some yummy soft pretzels on your trip already, but these are special: Watch a fifth-generation baker make some for you and discover for yourself why he supplies some of Berlin’s top hotels. Then meet the winery’s winemaker, who will present a special wine tasting.

Let's Go: Wertheim Hike

Day 6: Würzburg



Your ship will dock in the charming Franconian town of Würzburg, where you can visit the extraordinary Würzburg Residence, one of the most opulent baroque palaces in Europe.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Würzburg Residence Visit with Court Gardens

This incredibly lavish 18th-century palace was created under the auspices of two Schönborn prince-bishops, Lothar Franz and Friedrich Carl, who brought enormous knowledge and passion, as well as a budget for the best, to the project. Over the course of 60 years, they fostered the creation of a 300-room palace that contains jaw-dropping baroque art. The magnificent grand staircase boasts the world's largest ceiling fresco, painted by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo. Portions of the building were damaged by Allied bombing in 1945, but, fortunately, most of the historic furnishings had been stored off-site and key rooms were unharmed, so you can see the original—and matchless—artwork, gilding, and statuary. Check out both the spectacular Hall of Mirrors and the imposing Imperial Hall, which boasts a large oval dome and 20 half-columns. Even the gardens have been restored, right down to the topiary fruit trees in the kitchen garden, which are re-creations of the trees grown there in the 18th century.

Note: Visitors may not take photos or videos or carry backpacks inside the Würzburg Residence.

Würzburg Wine Cellar

In the charming town of Eibelstadt, within the Würzburg district, you'll find Weinforum Franken. This cozy hotel and restaurant in Franconian wine country is a haven for wine lovers, and their sommelier is passionate about sourcing the best wines in the region for their collection. Today, we'll enjoy an atmospheric tasting in their 15th-century cellar, trying 3 different wines produced by fantastic local estates.

Day 7: Cruising the Main River, Kitzingen (Rothenburg)



Step into a fairytale version of the Middle Ages in Rothenburg and visit a medieval castle that's been described as a miniature Versailles. Spend a relaxing day onboard as your ship wends its way along the Main River between Würzburg and Bamberg. It's something of a truism to say that this route takes you from wine to beer, and you'll see the transition as you sail past the vineyard-covered slopes around Würzburg toward Bavaria's famous beer-brewing center, Bamberg. Along the way, you'll pass delightful little villages and romantic castle ruins, drift under lovely old bridges, and have plenty of time to observe the fascinating variety of vessels plying the river, from heavily loaded barges to jaunty little pleasure craft.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Fairytale Rothenburg

Step into a fairytale version of the Middle Ages in Rothenburg with its great stone walls surrounding the medieval core, linking towers, bastions, and parapets. Narrow cobblestone lanes will lead you past the charming old monastery, Germany's oldest half-timbered houses, and splendid fountains before winding your way to the town's perfectly medieval Market Square, a hotspot for locals and guests alike. If you're lucky, you'll get to see magnificent Town Hall (which seamlessly blends together Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture), spirited dance performances, and on special occasions—knights pulling horses through the city in a wonderful spectacle. Savor a taste of the beloved bratwurst, a type of German sausage made from veal, beef, or pork. Take some time to explore the town and have lunch on your own after your tour. This afternoon, you'll have a chance to explore or shop on your own.

Active Rothenburg: Walk the Ramparts

€30 per person / €30 EUR onboard

Everything about this excursion is wonderfully scenic, starting with your journey from the ship to the town--you'll travel along an especially picturesque stretch of Germany's Romantic Road, which is dotted with enchanting little villages. And the moment you enter Rothenburg, you'll feel as though you are in a fairy tale, partly because Rothenburg has appeared in so many movies, including Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. For a great view of the old town, take the narrow path atop the great stone walls that still surround the medieval core; they still link watchtowers, bastions and parapets. Roam the cobblestone streets with your guide, passing historic churches and picture-perfect timber-frame houses to the medieval market square, where you can sample some local sausages before delving into the old dungeon. The vaults there now offer exhibits on the Thirty Years War, which hit Rothenburg hard, though in the 15th century debtors and tax evaders--and one of the town's most famous mayors--were imprisoned there. Take some time to explore the town and have lunch on your own after your tour. It offers everything from a fascinating and gruesome Crime Museum to a terrific year-round Christmas store. Note: lunch will be on your own today.

Day 8: Bamberg



Your floating boutique hotel takes you to Bamberg today, a well-preserved town that offers a fascinating glimpse of medieval times. Explore the city on foot or opt to head deeper into the Franconian countryside to experience an authentic slice of rural life—including a tractor ride. Like Rome, the city is built on seven hills—



but in Bamberg, a church tops each one.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Bamberg Walking Tour

Now a pleasant city with a lively student population and a world-famous symphony orchestra, Bamberg was the center of economic and political life for a huge swath of Central Europe in the Middle Ages. Spared WWII bombing, the entire heart of historic Bamberg is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The medieval layout of the city remains intact, along with 2,000 historic buildings; it is yours to explore today. In the splendid late-Romanesque Imperial Cathedral you will find the only papal tomb in Germany, that of Pope Clement II (who was the bishop of Bamberg before he became pope), as well as the tomb of Emperor Henry II (who established the bishopric). Near it is the magnificent Old Palace, the late-Gothic imperial residence (if you saw the 2011 3-D version of *The Three Musketeers*, you'll recognize it immediately), which sits across from the New Residence, where the 17th-century prince-bishops lived, separated by a lovely rose garden. Cross the cobblestone footbridge to the Old Town Hall, which is adorned with colorful frescoes, and ramble along the narrow lanes lined with picturesque half-timbered houses.

Franconian Village Day

If you're interested in getting to know more about the landscape and local farming techniques in the beautiful Steigerwald region, this visit to a Franconian village is perfect for you. Meet a local farmer who is determined to make sure that his way of life continues for future generations; he's dedicated to restoring the natural environment around him and making sure that school kids know more about where their food comes from. Join him as he introduces his village to you: the typical farmhouses and the crops, the hardships of the life as well as the pleasures of living among the vineyards and forests. Take a tractor ride over the rolling hills to a small-scale vintner's where you can sample the wine they make strictly for home consumption.

Day 9: Nuremberg, Cruising the Main-Danube Canal



Head up to the top deck or find a seat with a good view—you won't want to miss seeing the ship navigate its way through a marvel of modern engineering, the Main-Danube Canal. A formidable set of locks, 16 in all, lifts your ship to the crest of the European "continental divide." Arrive in the archetypal medieval German city of Nuremberg. Nuremberg is justifiably famous for its gingerbread and pocket watches, and it was also the

site of some key moments in 20th-century history. You'll choose between two memorable ways of exploring this exceptional city. You can join a tour of a secret Nazi art bunker hidden underground, or you can accompany a local expert to the city's most important WWII sites, including the enormous Nazi Party Rally Grounds—the actual site of the Nazi Party rallies.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Nuremberg City Tour with WWII Rally Grounds and Documentation Center Visits

Hitler considered Nuremberg the perfect expression of German culture (partly because of its significance in the Holy Roman Empire, which he called the First Reich), and so beginning in 1927, he chose to hold his massive rallies in the city. By 1933, his favorite architect, Albert Speer, had designed the vast Nazi Party Rally Grounds, where thousands upon thousands of Nazi troops saluted Hitler. (Leni Riefenstahl captured these events in her famous propaganda film *Triumph of the Will*.) Not all of Speer's plans were executed, and some of his grandiose structures were bombed out of existence, but the remainder stand as vivid testimony to Hitler's megalomania. A four-square-mile (10-square-kilometer) complex known as Zeppelin Fields contains parade grounds and a huge grandstand, the excavation site where a stadium for 400,000 people was begun—the hole is now filled with water.

Nuremberg City Walk & Art Bunker Visit

Set out on a panoramic drive towards Nuremberg's Old Town. Along the way, look out the window to catch a glimpse of several interesting sites, including the former SS Barracks, Nuremberg's train station, and the old city walls. You'll get off the bus near the castle for a walking tour of the historic neighborhood surrounding it, then descend underground to find a secret Nazi art bunker hidden beneath the castle.

In the medieval period, a network of tunnels was built under the castle hill, and parts of these tunnels were later turned into an artifact preservation bunker during World War II. The Nazis stored several highly valuable and symbolic items here to keep them safe from Allied air raids, including the imperial regalia of the Holy Roman Empire, looted artifacts from occupied nations, and paintings by Albrecht Dürer, a German painter whose home you'll have passed on your tour through the Old Town.

Please note: you may find it beneficial to bring a warm jacket with you on this tour, as the art bunker naturally sits at around 55°C.

Day 10: 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 center.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Regensburg Walking Tour

People have been describing Regensburg as “old and new” for a thousand years. A single structure perfectly illustrates this: Porta Praetoria, the gate built by the Romans during Marcus Aurelius’ reign. The gate and adjacent watchtower have been incorporated into a much newer building, but the plaster has been removed to reveal the ancient stones laid so long ago.

As you walk through the cobbled lanes of the UNESCO-designated Old Town, the city’s 2,000-year history is similarly revealed: the Stone Bridge that made Regensburg a 12th-century trading powerhouse, the Gothic town hall where the Imperial Diet met for three centuries, the 13th-century fortified patrician houses, and the spectacular Cathedral of St. Peter, whose magnificent 14th-century stained-glass windows alone are worth your walk.

You’ll have free time to explore on your own. It’s very hard to get lost in Regensburg because the spires of the cathedral are visible all over town, so don’t hesitate to roam. The historic quarter not only boasts almost a thousand beautiful old buildings, but also many cozy pubs and some great shopping. The ship is docked conveniently close, so it’s easy to drop your treasures off and go back for more.

“From Hops Field to Beer Stein” Farm Visit

Hops vines grow up their strings in a field tower almost twice a person’s height. They’re grown for their flowers, which add a distinctive flavor to beer—but the fields they grow in add a distinctive flavor to the hops. You could call it *terroir* for beer, and you can delve into hops cultivation and hops brewing today. Travel through Bavaria’s Holledau region, the largest hops growing district in the world, and meet an enthusiastic ambassador of hops growing and beer making. She will give you a quick and lively history of hops in Germany—including Bavaria’s law governing the making of beer, which has specified since 1560 that the only ingredients permitted in beer are water, barley and hops—and lead you on a tour through the growing fields her family owns, followed by a craft beer tasting in the cozy barn turned beer hall. It’s a delicious way to get to know a fascinating aspect of the international farm-to-table movement.

Bavarian History & Beer

€65 per person / €65 EUR onboard

Just a five-minute walk from where our ship docks in Regensburg is the Haus der Bayrischen Geschichte. Also known as “The Bavarian Museum,” this building houses a plethora of objects of cultural significance to the region, including the lion statue that was at Munich Oktoberfest until 2017, Empress Sisi’s mourning period dress, and a hot air balloon used by some residents of East Germany to flee to West Germany during the cold war. Next, we’ll walk to the other side of the Danube, taking in an incredible view over the city before heading to Stadtamhof Brewery, the oldest in Regensburg. Learn about the 800-year old tradition of beer brewing on a guided tour, followed by a beer tasting on site.

Day 11: Passau



Located at the confluence of three rivers—the Danube, Inn, and Ilz— Passau is well known for its ornate baroque cathedral. Today, the city is unusually well preserved, having been spared the brunt of Allied bombing during WWII, as you’ll see on your walking tour.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Passau Walking Tour

The skyline of Passau is dominated by two buildings that owe their existence to the prince-bishops who ruled the city until 1803: the great fortress looming on a hill above the three rivers, home to the bishops until the 17th century, and the green onion domes of St. Stephen’s Cathedral. As you walk through the cobblestone streets toward those green onion domes, you’ll realize that Passau retains the layout of the medieval town.

However, many of the wooden medieval buildings burned to the ground in the 17th century, and the prince-bishops imported Italian artists to build a new cathedral and a magnificent new residence for the bishops themselves. As a result, these splendid structures flaunt Italian baroque and rococo style and ornamentation, complete with opulent gilding and wonderful frescoes. Your guide will introduce you to some of the architectural highlights—the rococo stairways of the New Residence; the cathedral; and the Town Hall, which boasts a magnificent atrium adorned with large paintings by Ferdinand Wagner—and make sure you get a close-up view of the point where the three rivers meet.

Let's Go: Bicycle Ride along the Inn River

The Inn River rises in the Alps, near Innsbruck (hence the name of the famous Swiss ski resort) and flows through three nations (Switzerland, Austria, and Germany) on its way to Passau, where it joins the Danube. While the Danube bike path may be Europe's best-known route for bicyclists, the Inn River bike path, which follows the river from Innsbruck to Passau, has plenty of fans. The route through the Inn River valley outside Passau is an especially attractive stretch, with great views of the lovely countryside, picturesque villages, and the sparkling clear river itself. Your guide will make sure you know the local traffic and safety rules before you and your group set out along the partly flat and paved path. You'll be traveling on both sides of the river, crossing between Germany and Austria as you cross the Inn, and your journey will include a comfort stop before returning to the ship. All in all, it's an idyllic way to enjoy the scenery and get some exercise at the same time.

Passau Through the Lens

€60 per person / €60 EUR onboard

Capture Passau's best angles—and there are many, believe us—on a guided-tour-turned-photography class! With a photographer by your side, you'll explore the city's most scenic sites, from the Old Town Hall to the magnificent St. Stephen's cathedral, and from charming alleyways to breathtaking riverside views. Bring your camera (don't worry, any smartphone will do) and learn how the professionals get that perfect shot. This tour will give you an immersive introduction to the city, leaving you with new memories, new skills, and excellent mementos of your trip.

Day 12: Weissenkirchen (Melk), Tulln



Named for its white church, Weissenkirchen may very well be the prettiest village in the Wachau Valley. A local expert will show you around and introduce you to some regional delicacies, including a wine tasting. Prefer to go for baroque? Visit the 900-year-old Melk Abbey and its extraordinarily opulent library. Later, you can stretch your legs with a vineyard hike.

Featured excursions included in your journey

Let's Go: Vineyard Hike

If you're up for a hike, join a group on a hike up through the vineyards. A stairway at the church will take you past the ancient cemetery and up to the hiking trail that leads through the vineyards planted with Riesling and Grüner Veltliner grapes. You'll enjoy expansive views over the river valley as you approach your resting point. An easy walk back to the ship; instead of a reverse hike, you can comfortably stroll back into the village via a different route, passing many small vintners along the way.

Nights Out: Private Johann Strauss Experience

After dinner onboard, join us on a private visit to a museum and concert venue that offers a deep dive into the life and legacy of Johann Strauss II. Composer of “The Blue Danube” and one of Europe’s most celebrated musicians, Strauss represents a vital piece of Viennese culture and history. Begin with an interactive tour of the museum, which employs audio-visual elements to immerse you in the story of Johann Strauss II. Afterward, enjoy a live concert of Strauss compositions.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Melk Abbey with Library Visit

The Babenbergs, a great medieval ducal family that controlled a wide swath of Austria before yielding to the Habsburgs, were the first to erect a castle on the hill above Melk, which they subsequently gave to Benedictine monks. These monks, some 900 years ago, turned it into a fortified abbey and the greatest center of learning in Central Europe. Their library was celebrated far and wide (and still is—Umberto Eco paid tribute to it in his best-selling novel *The Name of the Rose*). Monks there created more than 1,200 manuscripts, sometimes spending an entire lifetime hand-lettering a single volume. Today the library contains some 100,000 volumes, among them more than 80,000 works printed before 1800. This beautiful complex, completely redone in the early 18th century, is a wonderful example of baroque art and architecture, and the views from its terrace are spectacular. As you walk through the abbey’s Marble Hall with your guide, look up at the ceiling fresco painted by Paul Troger: Those classical gods and goddesses represent Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI, allegorically bringing his people from darkness to light and demonstrating the link he claimed to the original Roman Empire.

Weissenkirchen Village Walk with Wine Tasting

You’ve seen the apricot orchards along the river banks; now taste the fruit. Begin with an easy walk to Weissenkirchen, which may be the prettiest village in the Wachau—and that’s saying quite a bit. Named for its famous white church, Weissenkirchen is simply picture-perfect. Its centuries-old wine estates, houses with colorful flower boxes, lovely gardens, and apricot orchards make for a wonderfully idyllic setting between the river and the mountains. Later, sample some Wachau wines at a local winery where your guide will share various details about why these extraordinary wines are so unique.

Day 13: Vienna



Vienna is a cultural treasure trove revered for its art and music (and sinfully rich pastries). Embark on a tour of the city's imperial highlights and a visit to Hofburg Palace or a visit to an interactive multimedia experience featuring the work of Mozart.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Imperial City Highlights with Hofburg Palace Visit

Ring Street, the great horseshoe-shaped boulevard lined with many of the city's major landmarks—Parliament, City Hall, the Vienna State Opera, glorious palaces, and museums—is a mere 150 years old, practically an infant for a city of Vienna's age. It replaced the walls and fortifications that had protected the city for centuries. Its construction was a testament to confidence, forward-thinking, and grand urban planning, and it resulted in a 50-year building spree. You'll pass most of these opulent landmarks on your way to the older section of the city, the area the walls once enclosed.

Later, you'll walk along Kärntner Street, the celebrated pedestrian boulevard that links the State Opera with St. Stephen's Cathedral, past the elegant shops on the Graben and the Kohlmarkt. The neighborhood offers a lively combination of historic architecture, street performances, shoppers' delights, and true Viennese atmosphere.

Today's excursion also includes a visit to Hofburg Palace.

Mythos Mozart & Imperial City Highlights

Start your tour by following a local guide through Vienna, taking in the city's most significant sites as you go. You'll arrive at Mythos Mozart, a multimedia experience that transforms Mozart's compositions into an immersive piece of art. Make your way through five different rooms, each with a different story to tell in honor of Vienna's most famous composer.

Vienna Culinary Walking Tour

€70 per person / €70 EUR onboard

Our culinary tour starts in a place of great significance to the people of Vienna, a coffee house. Viennese coffee house culture is a hallmark of local history, and even has UNESCO designation. Though the UNESCO designation refers to coffee house culture collectively, rather than a specific location, we've selected one of the city's most traditional spots for enjoying a cup of coffee with a slice of cake. Next, we'll walk to Graben Square, where we'll sample homemade breads with an assortment of spreads and beer. And after that, it's on to the Stephansplatz, the square surrounding the beautiful Saint Stephen's Cathedral. We'll stop by one of Vienna's oldest cellar vaults at a nearby wine shop for an aperitif of a typical Viennese white wine.

Day 14: Budapest



Called the “Queen of the Danube,” in part because of the way the city hugs the banks of the river, Budapest is an enchanting city that vibrantly mixes East and West, medieval and modern. Made up of two parts—Buda (the hills) and Pest (the flatlands)—and divided by the Danube, Hungary's capital presents an array of architectural styles that reveal its long and varied history. You'll have two enticing ways to experience the city—a panoramic guided tour aboard a motorcoach with a visit to the Parliament, or discover the Budapest that locals love on a special walking tour of the city's most important landmarks.

Select your choice of these carefully curated excursions, which operate at the same time.

Budapest Panoramic Highlights with Parliament Visit

Take in the highlights of Budapest on a panoramic tour down Andrassy Avenue, a bustling promenade lined with breathtaking Neo-Renaissance architecture. The construction of this street was part of a concerted effort to establish Budapest as a modern metropolis during the 19th century, making the grandeur of these buildings as much a political statement as an artistic one. Today, you can enjoy both the beauty and the history of this UNESCO-designated avenue as you pass through, marvel at Heroes' Square, and make your way to the top of Gellért Hill, where you'll look down to incredible views of both the Buda and Pest sides of the city.

Stepping off the coach, you'll enter the iconic Parliament building that commands Budapest's skyline. Likely the most famous building in Budapest, this masterpiece of Neo-Gothic architecture is as spectacular inside as out.

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.

Day 15: Budapest (Disembark)



Disembark the ship. If you have arranged a Uniworld departure transfer, you will be transferred to Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport for your flight home. Or you can extend your stay in beautiful Budapest with our exciting optional post-cruise extension.

Optional Extensions

PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

Amsterdam Pre-Cruise Extension

Start your trip with a three-day adventure in the Netherlands' beloved capital city. Explore amazing Amsterdam and discover its legacy of history, art, and architecture.

Included in your 3-day stay:

- 2 nights at the Pillows Grand Boutique Hotel Maurits at the Park (or similar)
- Breakfast daily
- All service charges, taxes, and portage
- Amsterdam canals and famous Rijksmuseum
- English-speaking expert

Day to Day:

2026 Amsterdam Pre-Cruise Day to Day Overview ([click here for details](#))

Day 1: Amsterdam

If you have arranged a Uniworld arrival transfer, you will be greeted at the airport by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the hotel. There you will check in, drop off your bags, and, if you wish, go out and explore the city on your own. Your Uniworld local host can offer suggestions for your leisure time. The best-known city in Holland boasts an amazing panorama of history, art, culture, architecture, food and drink, canals, cobblestone streets, museums, and bicycles.

Day 2: Amsterdam

FEATURED EXCURSION: *The Famous Rijksmuseum Visit*

Start your morning with a tour of the Rijksmuseum. You'll walk to the famous museum, where an expert guide will help you navigate the largest and most renowned collection of Dutch and Flemish art and artifacts in the world, now arranged to reveal the history of Dutch art. After your guided tour, you'll have some time to explore the museum on your own.

FEATURED EXCURSION: *Amsterdam Canal Cruise*

After your free time, meet with the guide and walk to the canal dock, where you'll board a boat to enjoy the city's most famous pastime: a canal cruise. Amsterdam is called the Venice of the North for a reason: canals crisscross the heart of the old city, and bridges link approximately 90 islands. As the principal city in a newly independent Holland, Amsterdam was a boom town in the early 17th century, rapidly outgrowing its medieval walls. The city's fathers responded by demolishing most of the old city and building anew, creating Europe's first planned city. That "new" district is now 400 years old, and as you glide along the main canals, you'll pass stately merchants' houses—built centuries ago. But the canals are not merely scenic; they are essential thoroughfares—people take water buses to work and live in

houseboats along the banks—so a canal cruise gives you a look at the busy modern city too.

After, return to the hotel for a welcome drink.

Day 3: Amsterdam

You'll have some free time today before your river cruise adventure begins. Amsterdam is full of amazing museums, lively street life and intriguing shops, all of which you can easily explore on your own. Your local host can offer suggestions. In the afternoon, you'll board the motorcoach and transfer to the ship to begin your all-inclusive river cruise.

Extensions may not be offered on all departure dates—please check with our Reservations team for availability.

POST-CRUISE EXTENSION

Budapest Post-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.

Included in your 3-day stay:

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

Day to Day:

2026 Budapest Post-Cruise Day to Day Overview ([click here for details](#))

Day 1: Budapest

FEATURED EXCURSION: *Budapest walking tour with Rock Hospital*

Explore the Hospital in the Rock Nuclear Bunker Museum, a former emergency hospital and nuclear bunker located underneath Buda Castle Hill. This museum pays homage to the almost six-mile stretch of interconnected caves and cellars that date back to World War II. After, take the elevator up to the Castle District for a stroll around. Enjoy panoramic views of Pest across the way, and walk along famed museums and attractions, like Matthias Church. Marvel at its breathtaking architecture, beautiful stained-glass windows, and golden frescoes.

MASTERPIECE COLLECTION*: *Budapest Foodie Tour*

Join us for an unforgettable Hungarian culinary experience that will delight both seasoned gourmets and curious food lovers alike! This walking tour takes you on a journey through the flavors of Hungary,

featuring a three-course early dinner at three exceptional restaurants within the area of your hotel. We begin at Urban Betyar, where you'll savor a steaming bowl of Goulash Soup, one of Hungary's most iconic dishes. Next, we stroll to the charming Víg Varju for a comforting and flavorful Chicken Paprikash, a classic favorite. Finally, we top off the evening at the stylish St. Andrea Sky-Bar, where you'll indulge in a decadent Hungarian dessert filled with rich chocolate. Each dish is thoughtfully paired with a selection of drinks, enhancing your culinary journey. With your expert guide leading the way, you'll not only taste Hungary but also experience its culture and traditions through food. Book now and let your taste buds explore the magic of Hungarian cuisine!

Day 2: Budapest

Enjoy a day in Budapest at your leisure. It's a large and eclectic city, with fascinating sites to explore everywhere you look. Perhaps you'd like to visit the thermal baths, explore one of the city's iconic ruin pubs, or take in the awe-inspiring views from the top of Gellért Hill.

Day 3: Budapest

It's time to check out of the hotel. If you have arranged a Uniworld departure transfer, you will be transferred to the Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport for your trip home. We hope you will enjoy the memories you've made for years to come.

*Masterpiece Collection are optional experiences that go above and beyond our daily selection of included excursions and can be booked for an additional fee. Select Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences can be pre-booked. Please note that requests to pre-book must be made by calling our Reservations Team no later than 6 days prior to departure and are subject to availability. Some venues are limited in the number of guests they can accommodate. Guests can book onboard (space permitting) and pay in Euros. Pre-booked Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences are refundable up to 48 hours prior to the cruise/tour start date; if inside of 48 hours they are non-refundable. Select Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation (with full refund) if minimum is not met. Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences are non-commissionable. Prices are subject to change. Masterpiece Collection excursions may not operate if they occur on a holiday or if they require a minimum number of participants and that minimum is not met.

Extensions may not be offered on all departure dates—please check with our Reservations team for availability.