

GRAND CENTRAL EUROPE & ZURICH

17 Days | Zurich to Vienna

★★★★★ 4.2/5 6 reviews



17 days



4 countries



UNESCO

Why choose between the quaint scenery of the Rhine and the awe-inspiring sights along the Danube when you can combine both—and top it off with a five-star stay in Zurich?

Cruise between the picturesque city of Basel and imperial Vienna. Along the way, you'll cruise through 3 different rivers—the Rhine, Main and Danube—to visit Switzerland, France, Germany and Austria. You'll visit the resort town of Baden-Baden and climb to the treetops of Bamberg, wander the palatial residences of historic rulers and venture into the Bavarian forest. Taste Rheingau wines and German beers at the source. Wonder at the Wachau Valley's riverscapes and the equally incredible agricultural products grown there.

And as a pre- or post-cruise highlight, you'll spend two nights at the Dolder Grand Hotel in the lakeside city of Zurich expanding our journey on land to embrace Swiss cultural highlights in the country's largest city. This adventure is full of memorable moments from first to last.

Grand Central Europe is a combination of Zurich & the Rhine River Valley and Authentic Danube.

ZURICH TO VIENNA

Note: For 2023 and 2024 departures that embark in Basel, the ship will dock outside of Basel in the port of Breisach. 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.

DAY 1 ZURICH

Arrive at Zurich Airport. If your cruise 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 Dolder Grand Hotel. Perched like a castle on the hill above Zurich, this hotel offers a quiet, relaxed atmosphere in which to enjoy its many bars and dining venues, excellent spa or nature trails. And with its own funicular, private cars and shuttle services, it's as convenient a location for exploration as any in the city center.

Note: For Arrival, Departure and Transfer details, please visit [Uniworld.com/transfers](https://uniworld.com/transfers). For Port Location details, please visit [Uniworld.com/ports](https://uniworld.com/ports).

DAY 2 ZURICH

As Switzerland's financial capital, Zurich boasts the highest population in the country. Yet, while it rivals any other European metropolis, the city also has a unique charm. Historic and modern architecture mingle in the streets, all set on the shores of an expansive lake against a background of snow-capped alps.

Featured Excursion


ZURICH DISCOVERY TOUR

Zurich's Old Town cradles the Limmat River with a series of meandering alleyways and medieval buildings. Not only is this area historic, but it's also the most popular neighborhood in town for locals and visitors alike, with an excellent shopping, restaurant, and bar scene. Explore the Old Town with your local guide, making your way through the car-free streets of the Niederdorf, crossing the bridge over the river, and stopping to try a *Luxembergerli* (mini-macaron) at a popular local sweet shop. Along the way, keep your eyes peeled for the twin towers of the Grossmünster church, one of Zurich's most iconic landmarks, as well as the clock tower of the St. Peter church. It boasts largest clock face of any tower in Europe. Ask your guide for tips on how to spend some free time after the tour, they'll know just where to send you for some shopping, further sightseeing, or a good bite to eat!

Masterpiece Collection

i *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.*

CHOCOLATE EXPERIENCE TOUR

 Duration:
3 hours

 Activity Level:
Intermediate

 £89 pre-purchase
€89 EUR onboard

Note: This Masterpiece Collection excursion is also one of our MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences. A long tradition of precision and great craftsmanship marks many Swiss products, including their famous chocolates. The rich taste and creaminess of Swiss chocolate have earned the country's chocolatiers worldwide acclaim. On tour through Zürich today, you'll embark off the beaten path to get a local's perspective on exploring the city. Visit three different chocolate producers to sample local chocolates. At your final stop, Garçoa Chocolate, you'll learn about

their “bean to bar” method. It starts with hand selected cacao, which is then carefully transformed into various chocolates all in their own factories. Many chocolatiers don’t have this degree of control over their supply line, and this attention to detail makes for an utterly delicious treat that is also more sustainable.

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

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

**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 5 days prior to the cruise/tour start date; if inside of 5 days 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.*

DAY 3 ZURICH, BASEL (EMBARK)

Check out of your hotel and enjoy some free time in Zurich before it is time to transfer to the ship. After settling in onboard, you’ll have the rest of the day at leisure in Basel.

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



DAY 4 BREISACH

Breisach is often referred to as the gateway to the Black Forest, which you will venture into on today's excursion.

Featured Excursion

BLACK FOREST DAY

Today’s adventures will transport you into the fairytale of Hansel and Gretel as we take you on an exploration of the Black Forest, the place that inspired the tale. Board our coach to the quaint town of Titisee. Upon arrival, you’ll have some free time to explore on your own and find a nice spot for lunch in town. Afterward, we’ll embark on a boat tour around the lake, stopping at a particular scenic spot for Black Forest cake and coffee or tea. From there, the coaches will pick us up again and drive us back to the ship.

DAY 5 STRASBOURG (BADEN-BADEN)

Strasbourg is invariably described as quaint, with its cobbled lanes, half-timbered homes, giant stork nests and impossible-to-resist pastry shops. While we’re docked here today, make sure to get out and explore this charming town—but you won’t want to miss our day trip to the blissful spa town of Baden-Baden.

Choose between...

BADEN-BADEN CITY TOUR WITH CASINO

Join a local guide for a walking tour of enchanting Baden-Baden, which will bring you past two thermal baths and the city's famous Casino. Gain further appreciation for the Romans and their love of natural spa facilities as you pass by the Fettquelle, a public thermal fountain where it is believed that the water is health-promoting. After learning about the curative powers of Baden-Baden's water sources, explore the Casino Baden-Baden, and let its ambiance, architecture, and atmosphere enthrall you. You'll enjoy a tour of this grandiose building, complete with a walk through the gambling halls, which offer a look at the casino's fascinating history dating back to 1855 and Dostoevsky's novel "The Gambler"—written in Baden-Baden and based on this casino.

Note: Lunch will be on your own today.



STRASBOURG PANORAMIC TOUR WITH CATHEDRAL AND OLD TOWN WALK

Controlled over the centuries by either France or Germany, Strasbourg—cross-cultural and bilingual—offers a delightful combination of old and new, as well as French and German characteristics. You'll see the city's highlights on a panoramic drive before disembarking the coach for a walking tour through the towns famously idyllic streets with your local guide.

DAY 6 MAINZ, OFFENBACH

Your day in Mainz includes a visit to one of Germany's most stunning locales: Heidelberg.

Featured Excursion

ROMANTIC HEIDELBERG

A motorcoach carries you to Heidelberg, sometimes called the most romantic city in Germany. It is home to the nation's oldest university, a charming baroque Old Town lying along the banks of the Neckar River, and extraordinarily beautiful castle ruins overlooking the town. Your tour will take you to the castle, with its views of the red-tile roofs of the town below, the handsome Old Bridge and the wooded hillsides beyond, and then into Old Town, where you will see the late-Gothic Holy Spirit Church, the Student Prison, and the longest pedestrian street in Germany.

DAY 7 MILTENBERG

The perfect German town calls for a day full of quintessential German experiences. Resting on the left bank of the Main, Miltenberg is classically quaint with its charming squares, farmland, biking and pedestrian paths, impressive castles, and one of Germany's oldest inns.

Featured Excursion

MILTENBERG WALKING TOUR WITH BROTZEIT

Nestled between the Rhine and the mountains along its banks, Miltenberg has changed little since the 17th century. Explore its iconic half-timbered architecture as you roam the town with your local guide, taking some free time to shop.

When our time in Miltenberg ends, we'll move on to Bürgstadt, a winegrowing community about an hour's walk away. You'll have the opportunity to either hop on a bus or join a nature walk to reach this town, where you'll be welcomed with a drink and traditional *Brotzeit* snack.

DAY 8 WÜRZBURG

The opulent Würzburg Residence, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offers a true sense of the region's history through the European Renaissance. It even contains the world's largest ceiling fresco by Tiepolo. Visit the Residence and its carefully restored gardens or get to know the Würzburg wine scene with a tasting.

Choose between...

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 9 BAMBERG

Bamberg in its entirety is not only described as beautiful but has often been regarded as one of Germany's most attractive settlements, with its picturesque architecture, intersecting canals and rivers, and charming stores and restaurants, all framed by rolling hills.

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

Choose between...

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). 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.



LET'S GO: TREETOP HIKE

Venture into the Steigerwald Nature Park to experience the forest from a completely different perspective—high up in the treetops. A wooden pathway winds around the trees, then spirals upwards to culminate in a 41-meter tower.

Along the way you'll pass a deer park, live camera feeds into birds' nests, learning stations, and a petting zoo. When you reach the top of the walkway, you'll find yourself high above the forest, enjoying spectacular views of the countryside.

DAY 10 NUREMBERG

Other passengers are heading home today, but you are only halfway through your marvelous holiday. Enjoy a day of leisure exploring beautiful and historic Nuremberg.



DAY 11 NUREMBERG

The archetypal medieval German city, Nuremberg was once the unofficial capital of the Holy Roman Empire, housing many German kings in the Kaiserburg castle complex. Later, this city became the epicenter of the Nazi party. When the end of WWII left Nuremberg almost completely leveled, it was chosen to be the site of the war crimes tribunal—the Nuremberg Trials. Now, most of the city has been restored, including the old castle.

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

Featured Excursion

THE NUREMBERG EXPRESS

Start with a delicious bit of gingerbread as you walk with your guide around the city center. After a little while, you'll find yourself at a station, where you'll board a choo choo train for a sightseeing ride around Nuremberg. After all that exploring, it'll be time for another snack, so follow your guide to a Bratwurst shop for a taste of the city's famous treat: bread rolls stuffed with Nuremberg sausages.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.



Choose between...

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.



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—and the half-finished Congress Hall.

NOTE: The permanent exhibition at the Documentation Center will be closed until the fall of 2023. In its place, a special temporary exhibition may be available.

DAY 12 REGENSBURG

The nearly 2,000-year-old history of Regensburg begins with a Roman fort in 90 AD, from which Regensburg grew into the large and prosperous trade center that it became in the last few centuries of the Medieval period. This long history has been excellently preserved through Regensburg's iconic architecture—particularly its many Gothic and Romanesque churches and Patrician houses.



Featured Excursions

NIGHTS OUT: THE REGENSBURG CATHEDRAL CHOIR

This evening, Regensburger Domspatzen will treat you to a private concert in their famous Gothic cathedral. Literally translated to “The Regensburg Cathedral Sparrows,” the Domspatzen is the oldest boys’ choir in the world, dating back to the 10th century.

THE ADVENTURE BALL

A short drive outside of Regensburg, a giant wooden ball sits right on the shores of a beautifully blue Bavarian lake. Made up of twisting walkable paths, this “adventure ball” is the largest of its kind in the whole world. Explore this fun site with an expert guide, walk to the top of the ball for amazing views, glide back down to the bottom via the sphere’s “mega slide,” and take a short hike around the lake to learn about local plants and animals. With some free time at the end, you can stop for refreshments at the on-site restaurant, attempt the climbing wall, or test your skills at the balancing path.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

 Generations

Choose between...

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.

or


“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.

Masterpiece Collection

i 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.

WELTENBURG ABBEY BEER

 Duration:
4.5 hours

 Activity Level:
Intermediate

 £59 pre-purchase
€59 EUR onboard

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.

**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 5 days prior to the cruise/tour start date; if inside of 5 days 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.*

DAY 13 STRAUBING, DEGGENDORF, VILSHOFEN

Nestled between Regensburg and Passau sits a town surrounded by the foothills of the Bavarian Forest, Deggendorf. Journey deep into the alluring Bavarian Forest National Park, Germany's first national park, and discover outdoor leisure at its best.

Featured Excursions

BAVARIAN FOREST ADVENTURE

Enter the Bavarian Forest, Germany's first and largest national park, to discover an abundant wilderness covered in diverse flora and fauna. This area is home to several unique craft traditions, and you'll have your choice of which ones you'd like to discover today.

Enjoy a tasting of local schnapps. In Germany, schnapps refers to any hard liquor, and each is distinguished by the ingredients it is distilled from. The word means "snap," since schnapps is generally "snapped" back in the style of a shot.

From there, you'll choose to either see how the local style of glassware is crafted, or for a more active outing, join us on a visit to a former Silver Mine. Ride up to the mine by cable car, get your helmet and dive deep into the mountain.

INTO THE WOODS

Enter the Bavarian Forest, Germany's first and largest national park, to discover an abundant wilderness covered in diverse flora and fauna.

You'll explore the forest in one of two ways today. You can choose to join a family host to see how the local style of glassware is crafted. Or for those looking for a more active outing, join a family host on a visit to a former silver mine. Ride up to the mine by cable car, get your helmet, and dive deep into the mountain.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.



DAY 14 VILSHOFEN, PASSAU

A new day brings new experiences in the “City of Three Rivers,” Passau, where the Danube, Inn, and Ilz rivers join together, at one time bringing an influx of wealth and culture into the region.

Featured Excursions

LET’S GO: SCENIC BAVARIAN RIVER BIKING

Set off on an invigorating bike ride venturing through Passau and Engelhartzell, led by one of our certified wellness instructors. Pedal through Passau's Old Town, past more charming villages, meadows, and orchards. 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.

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.

PEDAL PASSAU

Head out on a cycling excursion on the famous Danube Bike Trail, venturing through Passau, Engelhartzell, and other fascinating locales. This flat pathway hugs the river and offers spectacular views of Germany’s lush scenery. The Danube Bike Trail is one of Europe's largest, following stretches of the Danube in Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.



Choose between...

ILZ RIVER SPLASH

Enjoy an afternoon on the water with the chance to try out rowing, canoeing, or paddle-boarding on the Ilz River, nicknamed the “Black Pearl,” due to the moors and bogs at its river

basin that give the water a mesmerizing black color. The Ilz is a paradise for kayakers and paddle boarders alike and allows people of all experience levels to have fun here.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

 Generations



TREASURE HUNT TREK

Join a local geocaching guide on a unique discovery of Passau's historical and hidden spots. Pay close attention to clues and hints as you make your way from one station to the next, uncovering important historical information about your current location. Each station also includes a special activity for kids.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

 Generations

DAY 15 WEISSENKIRCHEN, MELK

Start your day in the heart of the Danube's Wachau Valley, strolling through Weissenkirchen's idyllic wine village while sampling mouth watering apricot treats. Named for its white church that dominates the landscape, the city is flanked by vineyard-lined hills, historic houses, and beautiful courtyards. The Melk Abbey is a baroque monastery and sits atop a rocky formation overlooking the Danube.



Featured Excursion

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.

Choose between...

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*). Medieval 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 dark to light and demonstrating the link he claimed to the original Roman Empire.

After your tour of the abbey, you'll have time to explore Melk on your own, or you can take the motorcoach back to the ship.



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.



SECRETS OF WEISSENKIRCHEN

Weissenkirchen was once the hub of the Wachau Valley, and the main hub of Weissenkirchen was its historic church—in fact, the town's name translates to "white church." You'll be taken on a rare tour of the church today, during which you'll climb up the tower to stand under the bells, peek into the room where they used to hide their treasure, and more.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.



Generations

DAY 16 VIENNA

On this day, explore the "City of Waltzes" and dive into its vast artistic legacy. The city is known for its imperial palaces, famous residents, and expansive art collections.

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



Featured Excursion

SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE TOUR

Perhaps the apex of baroque design in Vienna, Schönbrunn Palace's gardens and structures form a perfectly integrated masterwork; it was Empress Maria Theresa's favorite palace, and she made it the social and political center of her empire, beginning in 1740. Your visit today will concentrate on the rooms occupied by Emperor Franz Joseph and his empress, Elisabeth (known as Sissi, she was enormously popular in her day). Franz Joseph restored the state rooms to their rococo splendor, but his private rooms reflect his rather severe nature, making for an illuminating contrast.

Choose between...

MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR

Watch as history comes alive on this exploration of the city at the interactive multimedia venue Time Travel Vienna. Discover Vienna's eventful history in a unique way; Time Travel Vienna features a 5D cinema, animatronic wax figures, rides, and multimedia shows equipped with extraordinary sound and light effects. After, you'll embark on a humorous and expertly-led walk around the city that will bring you to the historic St. Stephen's Cathedral.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

 Generations




SCHÖNBRUNN ROYAL EXPERIENCE

Learn more about the everyday life of the imperial family at the "Schloss Schönbrunn Experience" Children's Museum. Dress up as a prince or princess, learn the secret language of fans, play with imperial toys, or set the table for an imperial dinner. Schönbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburg rulers, is a stunning 1,441 room Baroque palace that's revered as one of the most important architectural and historical monuments in the country. Marvel at its over 300 years of history that reflect the changing tastes of former monarchs and wander through its vast gardens.


Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

 Generations

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.

VIENNA CULINARY WALKING TOUR

 Duration:
3 hours

 Activity Level:
Intermediate

 £79 pre-purchase
€79 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.

**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 5 days prior to the cruise/tour start date; if inside of 5 days 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.

DAY 17 VIENNA (DISEMBARK)

Disembark the ship. If your cruise package includes a group departure transfer or if you have purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Vienna International Airport for your flight home.



OPTIONAL EXTENSION VIENNA POST-CRUISE EXTENSION

A stay in Vienna, one of Europe's most beloved cultural capitals, is always a good choice. Extend your Danube voyage here for three days to experience the best this enchanting city has to offer, with an expert local host to guide your way.

- 2 nights at the Anantara Palais Hansen Vienna Hotel (or similar)
- Breakfast daily and all service charges, taxes, and portorage
- Vienna Discovery
- English-speaking expert
- All transfers

[Click here for full details.](#)

WHAT'S INCLUDED



DINING

All meals onboard, prepared using the finest and freshest ingredients

2 Welcome and 2 Farewell Gala Dinners

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



EXCURSIONS

13 days of excursions, all fully hosted by English-speaking local experts

A variety of onshore tours, including guided "Let's Go" and "Village Day" programs

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

Use of bicycles and Nordic walking sticks



ACCOMMODATIONS

14-night cruise in a riverview stateroom on the regal *River Princess*

2 nights in Zurich at The Dolder Grand Hotel (or similar)

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: Germany, France, Switzerland and Austria

Multiple UNESCO World Heritage sites

Services of an experienced Uniworld Cruise/Tour Manager

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

Captivating onboard local entertainment