



Dürnstein



VOYAGE AT A GLANCE

■ 7 CRUISE DAYS

Prague to Budapest

Day	Destination
1	Arrive Prague <i>InterContinental Prague</i>
2	Prague
■ 3	Regensburg (check at booking for embarkation location)
■ 4	Engelhartzell
■ 5	Cesky Krumlov or Salzburg
■ 6	Wachau Valley, Dürnstein
■ 7	Vienna
■ 8	Vienna, Bratislava
■ 9	Bratislava
10	Disembark Budapest, <i>The Ritz-Carlton, Budapest</i>
11	Budapest
12	Depart Budapest

Budapest to Prague

Day	Destination
1	Arrive Budapest <i>Kempinski Hotel Corvinus Budapest</i>
2	Budapest
■ 3	Embark Budapest
■ 4	Bratislava
■ 5	Vienna
■ 6	Vienna
■ 7	Dürnstein, Wachau Valley
■ 8	Cesky Krumlov or Salzburg
■ 9	Engelhartzell
10	(Check at booking for disembarkation location) Regensburg, Prague <i>Prague Marriott Hotel</i>
11	Prague
12	Depart Prague

THE BLUE DANUBE

OUR MOST POPULAR RIVER CRUISE! From Prague to Budapest, castles of all descriptions have watched over the landscape from their royal perches for hundreds of years. They remain lasting testimony to kingdoms and culture... regal, romantic and ready to welcome Tauck river cruisers – during a private dinner in Lobkowitz Palace at Prague Castle and an exclusive evening of Imperial entertainment and dining at a private palace in Vienna... in Baroque Salzburg and atop Castle Hill in Budapest... on a hike to Kuenringerburg Castle... and on your tour of Vienna's Schönbrunn Palace or Hofburg Palace.

1. ARRIVE PRAGUE

Tour begins: 5:30 PM, InterContinental Prague. A transfer is included from Prague's Vaclav Havel Airport or the Praha Hlavni Nadrazi train station to InterContinental Prague. Begin your visit to Prague with a royal welcome reception, tour and dinner at 16th-century Lobkowitz Palace at Prague Castle, exclusive to Tauck guests. **Meals D**

2. PRAGUE'S CASTLE & COBBLESTONE STREETS

One of Europe's most beautiful capital cities, Prague has stories to tell around every bend. A choice of excursions today offers different perspectives of the city, including a

walking tour of the Jozefov Quarter to discover Prague's Jewish Heritage or a stroll through centuries of history that visits St. Agnes Convent and myriad Old Town sights. Afternoon sightseeing takes you inside Prague's soaring cathedrals and historic architectural riches, including the magnificent Gothic Cathedral of St. Vitus and the Hradcany (Castle) district. Our Tauck Exclusive private tour of the grand libraries of Strahov Monastery, resplendent in design and decoration, is bound to be a highlight of your day; you'll have the opportunity to view treasures that other visitors won't see. Spend the remainder of the day as you wish in the "city of a hundred spires," strolling along cobblestone streets, lantern-lit in the evening, and sampling local culinary delights. **Meals B**

3. REGENSBURG / ■ EMBARK RIVERBOAT

You have a choice of activities today. If you'd like to see more of Prague, spend your morning here exploring at your own pace. Or set off for the quintessential Bavarian town of Regensburg, Germany, on the banks of the Danube. Take some free time for lunch – Regensburg is famous for its sausage – before a walking tour of the town's historic sights. A local guide leads the way as you see the 12th-century Steinernen Brücke (Germany's oldest surviving stone bridge); the 15th-century Town Hall; the twin-spired Gothic St. Peter's Cathedral; and the remains of the Roman wall. Embark your Tauck riverboat and join us for a welcome reception and dinner this evening. **Meals BD**



Vienna



Cesky Krumlov

4. ■ ENGELHARTSZELL AND BICYCLING

One guest said that *The Blue Danube* was like taking a magic carpet ride through picturesque places, getting on and off in towns that just beg to be explored! Today's arrival in the small Austrian market town of Engelhartzell lets you do just that, your way. Take a walking tour with a local guide to the church of Engelhartzell Abbey, a Trappist monastery once known for its cheese, liqueurs, and beer. Or, for a peek into everyday life here, visit a local home, where you and your host share conversation and perhaps even a taste of Austrian goodies. If you like, stretch your legs with a bicycle trip* along the Danube to the town of Aschach, where your riverboat awaits. Musicians perform onboard tonight as the ship charts a course towards Linz, Austria. **Meals BLD**

5. ■ SALZBURG, CESKY KRUMLOV OR LINZ

With your riverboat docked in Linz today, choose your preferred activity – go on a full-day excursion to Salzburg, Austria, to Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic, or remain in Linz. A setting for *The Sound of Music*, Salzburg is enticing with Baroque architecture, painted wrought-iron

signage, ornate church towers, and grand palaces. Our walking tour explores Old Town, Mirabell Gardens, and Mozart's birthplace. Enjoy time on your own to have lunch and experience the sights as you wish; Salzburg holds an important place in the cultural fabric of Austria. Alternatively, travel with us through beautiful landscapes to Cesky Krumlov, which has been called a living gallery of elegant Renaissance-era buildings. Also graced with an incredibly well-preserved medieval heritage and charming ambiance, the town has earned its coveted designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its historic importance and physical beauty. A walking tour takes you to part of Cesky Krumlov Castle; it's worth climbing the many steps to see firsthand the medieval, Renaissance and Rococo design found inside, along with the stunning views of the town below. A third option today provides an opportunity to remain in Linz for time to explore as you please on your own before returning to the riverboat for dinner. **Meals BLD**

6. ■ WACHAU VALLEY CRUISE TO DÜRNSTEIN

Onboard commentary enriches a leisurely cruise past lush vineyards, fairy tale castles and ancient monasteries in the Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site for



Strahov Monastery



Schönbrunn Palace



If you want to feel like you are on the most personalized vacation ever, travel with Tauck! This was our first river cruise and we are now definitely confirmed Tauck Travelers! The thought and special “treats” that go into each tour is most outstanding. We’re now planning our next Tauck adventure, where I know we will once again feel like royalty.

– James Lindauer, California

its intact medieval architecture – and the perfect scenic appetizer for your stop in the picturesque little village of Dürnstein in Austria's wine country. Take a closer look at the village's Baroque houses as you stroll down the one main street with our local guides, seeing Old Town sites that include Kremser Tor Gate, the Pillory, and the Rathaus with an optional visit to the Augustine Monastery. If you wish, go on a bicycling adventure in the Wachau Valley where picture-perfect scenery rewards at every turn. Time at leisure this afternoon invites with the opportunity for an invigorating climb up centuries-old steps to the ruins of hilltop Kuenringerburg Castle – where Richard the Lionheart was once held for ransom and where you'll be rewarded with views of the river and beyond. Enjoy a wine tasting back in town before dinner on your riverboat. **Meals BLD**

7. ■ THE IMPERIAL CITY OF VIENNA

Wake up in Vienna, the city of emperors who ruled Europe for centuries! Join our local guides to pursue what interests you most, choosing from a city sightseeing tour with a drive along the “Ring”; a walking tour of Vienna with a focus on the city's Jewish heritage; or a guided bicycle ride around the city. An afternoon at leisure enables you to experience the sights as you please, including outstanding museums, magnificent boulevards, the historic Vienna Prater amusement park, and more. Nothing compares to the royal treatment and pageantry you'll experience tonight at our





Salzburg



Budapest

TRAVELING WELL INCLUDES...

- Tauck's private shore excursions and distinctive inclusions valued at \$2,974
- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE – Private Imperial Evening at a palace in Vienna with a gala dinner
- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE – Private dinner in Prague at Lobkowitz Palace, Prague Castle
- TAUCK EXCLUSIVE – Private tour of the Baroque libraries in Prague's Strahov Monastery
- Two nights each in Prague and Budapest at hotels in the heart of each city
- Choice in Vienna: Schönbrunn Palace or the Imperial Apartments at the Hofburg
- Local performing artists aboard the riverboat
- Unlimited complimentary beverages aboard ship include regional wine, beer and premium spirits, specialty coffee, water and soft drinks
- Gratuities to ship staff, drivers, local guides, Tauck Directors and Tauck Cruise Director
- Airport and train station transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 27 meals, service charges, taxes, portage, and applicable fuel surcharges

private Imperial Evening in an opulent Viennese palace. Waltz into the palace for welcome cocktails and dinner before an unforgettable spectacle of beautiful ball gowns and a musical performance celebrating the legacy of the composers who made Vienna Europe's center of music during the Habsburg era. **Meals BLD**

8. ■ VIENNA AND A CRUISE TO SLOVAKIA

Vienna's palatial treasures star today on your choice of sightseeing tours. Opt for a guided look inside Schönbrunn Palace, the Habsburgs' summer residence and an Austrian cultural gem, or drive to Hofburg Palace to see the Imperial Apartments of Empress Elisabeth ("Sisi"), another amazing Habsburg abode where the president of Austria lives today. Have lunch onboard or spend the afternoon at leisure in Vienna. Your riverboat sets sail for Bratislava in neighboring Slovakia later this afternoon. After dinner onboard, a troupe of traditional Slovak dancers performs for you. **Meals BLD**

9. ■ BRATISLAVA & CRUISING TO BUDAPEST

Meet our local expert when he comes onboard to share insider anecdotes about ancient Bratislava, before you head off to explore the city by foot or on a bicycle. On a walking tour of the city's cobblestoned, vehicle-free historic center, see 17 centuries of history chronicled in sites including its 13th-century Old Town Hall, Baroque Habsburg-era palaces, the Opera House, Slovak Philharmonic Hall and St. Martin's Cathedral. Or, pedal over to the "Iron Curtain area" with a local guide who shares personal insights about life here, past and present. Back aboard ship, get ready to celebrate the end of your cruise with a farewell reception followed by dinner. **Meals BLD**

10. DISEMBARK BUDAPEST & EXPLORE BUDA

Disembark your riverboat in Budapest this morning. Once two independent cities of Buda and Pest, Hungary's capital is filled with architecture known for its grandeur and style. Take a guided walking tour of the city's hilly Buda section this morning, visiting the Covered Market, Castle Hill, Fisherman's Bastion, and Matthias Church (may be closed on some days). Have lunch at a local café and spend the rest of the day at leisure. Your hotel is ideally located on the flatter Pest side of the river and is within walking distance of historic sites, shopping and local restaurants serving traditional and international cuisine. **Meals BL**

11. FASCINATING PEST AND A SPECIAL FAREWELL

Discover Pest today on a guided tour that includes patriotic Heroes' Square; fashionable Váci Utca; the Parliament building; elegant Andrassy Avenue; and a special visit inside the State Opera House. This afternoon, your choice of sightseeing focuses on the stories and sites associated with the Hungarian Revolution or the city's Jewish heritage with a visit to Dohanyi Synagogue, schedule permitting. Or, if you wish, join a local guide for a bicycle tour of city sights. Everyone meets up for a special farewell dinner at the grand Akadémia Club in the Hungarian Academy of Sciences – for Tauck guests only. **Meals BD**

12. JOURNEY HOME

Tour ends: Budapest. Fly home anytime. A transfer is included from The Ritz-Carlton, Budapest to Budapest Ferenc Liszt Airport or the Keleti train station. You should allow three hours for flight check-in. **Meals B**

12 DAYS FROM \$4,990 PLUS AIRFARE

(11 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches & 9 Dinners)

8-DAY CRUISE-ONLY FROM \$3,890 PLUS AIRFARE

(7 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches & 7 Dinners)

BEGINS PRAGUE

CRUISE PRICE PER PERSON - MS SAVOR / MS JOY

Date	CAT 1	CAT 2	CAT 3	CAT 4	CAT 5	CAT 6	CAT 7
Apr 5, 5*, Oct 25, 25*	\$4990	\$5390	\$5840	\$6140	\$6740	\$6940	\$7440
Apr 12, 12*	\$5190	\$5590	\$6040	\$6340	\$6940	\$7140	\$7640
Jul 26*, Aug 2, 2*, 9, 16*, Oct 18, 18*	\$5390	\$5790	\$6240	\$6540	\$7140	\$7340	\$7840
Apr 19*, 26	\$5490	\$5890	\$6340	\$6640	\$7240	\$7440	\$7940
May 3*, 10, 17, Aug 23, 23*	\$5890	\$6290	\$6740	\$7040	\$7640	\$7840	\$8340
Oct 11, 11*	\$5990	\$6390	\$6840	\$7140	\$7740	\$7940	\$8440
May 31, 31*, Jun 7, 7*, Aug 30, Oct 4	\$6190	\$6590	\$7040	\$7340	\$7940	\$8140	\$8640
Sept 6*, 13, 20*, 27	\$6490	\$6890	\$7340	\$7640	\$8240	\$8440	\$8940

Special Solo Traveler Savings – No Single Supplement in Category 1: On all departures, the single price in Category 1 is the same as the double price – no single supplement, which means savings of up to 50% for solo travelers! **Solo Travelers also enjoy Savings of \$1000 per cabin in Category 4 and 5** on the April 5, June 7, July 26, August 9, September 27, and October 25 departures. Certain restrictions apply.

Note: *Indicates Budapest to Prague westbound direction. Single prices Category 2 and above start at 40% over the double price; please visit tauck.com/river-cruises for complete pricing; ask at time of booking about additional 8-Day Cruise-Only pricing.

Land / cruise price per person, based on double occupancy, includes cruise fare, most meals, port charges, shore excursions, applicable fuel surcharges, and gratuities to Tauck Directors, Tauck Cruise Director, ship staff, local guides & drivers, as well as on all included meals. **Note:** Unlimited complimentary beverages aboard ship include regional wine, beer and premium spirits, in addition to specialty coffee, water and soft drinks.

International Airfare is additional. Call Tauck for special rates on international air, in coach or business, for travel originating in the United States (subject to availability).

Itinerary Changes – Although not expected, Tauck reserves the right to alter the sequence of ports or omit or substitute scheduled ports or attractions at any time without prior notice. Please go to tauck.com/river-cruises for Budapest to Prague day-by-day details; east and west itineraries are similar. Museums and attractions may be subject to closure due to state, local or religious holidays. This cruise includes a fair amount of walking in each city. Ask at booking about additional hotel nights before or after your cruise or about our Cruise Protection Product.

Shore Excursion Selection: Tauck will contact guests 60 days prior to departure to assist with shore excursion selections. **Note:** For all bike rides, hikes and activities marked with an asterisk (*), participation is at your own risk and requires a signed liability waiver to be provided.

See page 130 for riverboat deck plans.



Go to tauck.com for activity and pace level details.