

# Discovery on the Danube

9 day River Cruise: Budapest to Linz



Whether you're an art lover, a foodie, a history buff, or an energetic adventurer, your Active & Discovery cruise on the Danube River invites you to experience culture and cuisine in creative ways that are perfect for you. With Avalon Choice, you can select the experiences that are perfect for your interests and pace—from Active to Discovery to Classic. Avalon Choice gives you a choice of included excursions in each port.

Start by exploring Budapest your way—stroll its streets for classic sightseeing with a local guide or take a bike ride through town for a different perspective, or learn something new with a leisurely walking tour to discover a few local Hungarian phrases. Attend a Medieval Knights Tournament at a Visegrád castle, see Gustave Klimt's renowned "Kiss" painting in Vienna. With Avalon Choice, each day is yours to spend your way. Whether you prefer browsing the art collection of the Habsburg Empire, sipping local vintages at an Austrian wine-tasting, or joining a canoe excursion, your Active & Discovery cruise is packed with Avalon Choice inclu-sions for every pace in every place we go. Sample cheese and beer made by Trappist monks and explore their Abbey gardens; take a hike to Count Dracula's prison tower; or tour Mauthausen Concentration Camp, one of WWII's most notorious sites—selecting from an unmatched variety of included excursions to choose from each day.

Join us on this Active & Discovery cruise and experience the Blue Danube your way. No matter how you choose to explore new locales—from paddling canoes to picnic views—Avalon Choice includes the excursions and activities to invite you to discover each destination your way. Your Active & Discovery Danube River cruise can be as active or leisurely as you like!

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Stunning scenery, gourmet cuisine, wine with dinner and shore excursions included
- Elegant cabins with floor to ceiling windows
- A range of options for everyone history buffs, foodies, art lovers
- An exciting range of activities like a bike tour in Budapest, visit to Belvedere Palace
- An opportunity to sample regional wines in Krems
- Sail through beautiful scenery of the Danube Bend

# Itinerary

## **DAY 1 – ARRIVAL IN BUDAPEST**

Welcome to Budapest—Hungary's Captivating Capital

The day is yours to relax and enjoy Eastern Europe's shining city on the Danube.

#### OVERNIGHT STAY IN BUDAPEST

# DAY 2 - BUDAPEST (EMBARKATION)-DANUBE BEND

The Pearl of the Danube

#### **ACTIVE**

See the sights from a different perspective by joining a Guided Bike Tour along the bike paths and pedestrian areas of the city, OR:

#### **DISCOVERY**

Enjoy a Guided Walking Tour combing the sights of Budapest with "Fungarian" instruction of useful local words and phrases, OR:

#### **CLASSIC**

Take a Guided Walking Tour of Budapest to see the city's most iconic sites.

Spend free time shopping for Hungarian paprika or handcrafted souvenirs, or savor a piece of cream cake in the world-famous Gerbeaud Café.

Enjoy a Hungarian Dinner on board during a scenic cruise through the Danube Bend.

**EVENING CRUISE TO VISEGRÁD** 

## DAY 3 – VISEGRÁD

**Jousting Tournaments and Artisan Traditions** 

## **DISCOVERY**

Join a Guided Visit to the Medieval Knights Tournament at Visegrád's Lower Castle, featuring targeting and fighting demonstrations by members of the St. George Knightly Order, OR:

## **ACTIVE**

Take a Castle visit and scenic Hiking Tour to Count Dracula's prison tower in Visegrád, OR:

#### **ACTIVE**

Take part in a canoe excursion through the picturesque Bend Region of the Danube for a truly unique perspective of one of the river's most beautiful stretches.

Spend free time after your selected activities to explore Palotaház, where stonemasons, smiths, potters, and paper-makers produce their traditional items using age-old techniques.

AFTERNOON/OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO VIENNA

# DAY 04- VIENNA

Strauss, Schnitzel, Strudel, and Sachertorte

#### ACTIVE

Take a Guided Bike Tour along the famed Ringstrasse and pedestrian avenues of Vienna to see the city's highlights from a unique perspective, OR:

#### ACTIVE

Join a Guided Jogging Tour of the City of Music to see highlights of the gilded architecture along the way, OR:

#### **DISCOVERY**

Take an Insider's Tour of Vienna to get behind the scenes of her sights and attractions. You will meet locals, have the chance to prepare some food, and enjoy other surprises, OR:

# CLASSIC

Take a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Vienna, including a tour of Belvedere Palace to see Gustav Klimt's renowned "Kiss" painting.

Spend free time this afternoon strolling through the pedestrian Kärntnerstrasse, then take a break for a piece of Sachertorte.

This evening, you may choose to attend an Optional Musical Experience to conduct your own orchestra, followed by a classical waltz and operetta concert performance to enjoy.

OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN VIENNA

## **DAY 05 - VIENNA**

A Feast for the Soul in Vienna

# **DISCOVERY**

Enjoy a morning Guided Walking Tour to see the city in her best light, along with breakfast at a Viennese café, OR:

# CLASSIC

Dive into European history and drama with a Guided Tour of the Habsburg family's private art collection at the Museum of Fine Arts, and Italian or Dutch master works, OR:

# CLASSIC

Take a Guided Tour of the Museum of Fine Arts, followed by the World Museum Vienna, commemorating the past of the Habsburg Empire.

You might decide to join a Guided Optional Hike this evening to the vineyards surrounding Vienna, and also enjoy an Optional Excursion to a local Viennese Heurigen (Wine Tavern).

Tonight, enjoy live entertainment on board your ship.

#### **OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO KREMS**

## DAY o6 - KREMS

Take a Hike, a Canoe, or a Bike to Explore Austria's Wine Country

#### **ACTIVE**

Paddle a canoe on a Guided Tour to see the Austrian waterways and shoreline scenery from a unique perspective, OR:

#### **ACTIVE**

Take a Guided Bike Tour from Spitz to Krems, and enjoy a stop in Dürnstein to see the mesmerizing blue Stiftskirche, and to sample local specialties, OR:

# DISCOVERY

Join an interactive Wine World Experience with wine tasting, OR:

#### **DISCOVERY**

Enjoy a Guided Visit that showcases production of regional fruits, vegetables, wine, or other products.

Relax on board this afternoon to enjoy the picturesque Wachau Valley scenery as you cruise to Grein.

#### **GREIN**

A Modern-Day Castle and the Count

#### DISCOVERY

See Burg Clam on a Guided Visit, and meet the Count of Clam during your tour.

#### **OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN GREIN**

# DAY 7 - GREIN

Theater History on Austria's Oldest Stage

#### CLASSIC

Take a Guided Walk of Grein, including its historic theater, the oldest in Austria still holding regular performances.

Take a mid-morning cruise to Mauthausen.

#### **MAUTHAUSEN**

History Lessons and Monastic Life in Austria

## **ACTIVE**

Take a Guided Bike Tour along the Danube and discover how fertile this area is. Stop at a local farm and learn more about farming life and flood protection, OR:

## CLASSIC

Take a step back in time with a visit to the 9th-century St. Florian Monastery—the largest monastery in upper Austria and home to Augustine monks, OR:

#### CLASSIC

Pay homage to a pivotal time in human history with a Guided Tour of Mauthausen Concentration Camp, one of the largest and most brutal Nazi camps of WWII

This afternoon sail to Linz arriving this evening.

#### LINZ

Meet the Locals in Linz

Join a Guided Optional Pub Crawl through Linz to sample local libations and mingle with the locals. Later, enjoy live entertainment on board.

OVERNIGHT CRUISE TO ENGELHARTSZELL

# DAY 08 – ENGELHARTSZELL-SCHLÖGEN OXBOW

Memories and Beer in the making

#### ACTIVE

Join a Guided Tour to the "House by the Stream" (Haus am Strom) and walk across the Danube Power-Station Jochenstein, OR:

# CLASSIC

Visit the stunning rococo-style Engelszell Abbey, and explore its Sensory Garden—complete with stone labyrinth, herb garden, and vineyard. Sample cheese and beer made by the resident Trappist monks.

#### ACTIVE

This afternoon, enjoy a scenic Guided Hike along the Danube's Schlögen Oxbow bend that cuts a dramatic landscape made by centuries of natural elements.

Or, as a relaxing option, enjoy free time on the Sky Deck this afternoon while you sail through the amazing horseshoe bend of the Danube's Schlögen Oxbow on your return to Linz. Later, enjoy a farewell dinner onboard, followed by live entertainment.

OVERNIGHT DOCKING IN LINZ

## DAY 09 - LINZ (DISEMBARKATION)

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

\*\*\* Return home with wonderful memories \*\*\*

Price per person on a twin-sharing basis: From INR 1,92,000

## **Sailing Dates**

- 28 April to 6 May 2019
- 27 May to 04 June 2019
- 24 June to 2 July 2019
- 22 July 30 July 2019
- 19 August 27 August 2019
- o2 September 10 September 2019
- 30 September 2019 08 October 2019
- 14 October 2019 22 October 2019
- 28 October 05 November 2019

# **Price includes**

• 9 nights' accommodation on board the Avalon Impression (Sapphire Deck) on a twin-sharing basis

- All Meals as given below
  - o Captain's welcome & farewell receptions with sparkling wine and canapés
  - Welcome dinner
  - Farewell dinner
  - o Daily full buffet breakfast with made-to-order egg station, hot and cold menu items
  - Early and Late Riser breakfast
  - o Daily lunch buffet with pasta or carving stations
  - o Alternative light lunch or (weather permitting) grill fare at the Sky Bistro on the Sky Deck
  - o Daily four-course à la carte dinner in the main dining room
  - o Alternative dinner of petite portions or regional specialties with wines, in the Panorama Bistro
  - o Daily Afternoon Tea
  - o Daily Night Fare
  - o Complimentary sparkling wine with breakfast; wine, beer, or soft drinks with lunch and dinner are included daily on board your vessel
- Shore excursions as per the programmed given above
- Local English speaking guide
- Entrance fees where applicable

## **Price excludes**

- Air ticket for travel to and from Budapest / Linz
- Visa & Insurance
- Airport Transfers in Budapest on arrival and in Linz on departure
- Services of an Odyssey Tour escort
- Trip Cancellation Policy (optional, but recommended at US\$ 99 pp)
- Meals and sightseeing not mentioned
- Tips (US\$ 119 pp mandatory)
- Items of a personal nature
- Anything not specifically mentioned under "Price includes"
- GST at 5% i

# **Booking & Cancellation Policy**

- Booking deposit \$250 per person + Trip Protection if applicable (payable in equivalent INR)
- Balance payment due 90 days prior to sailing

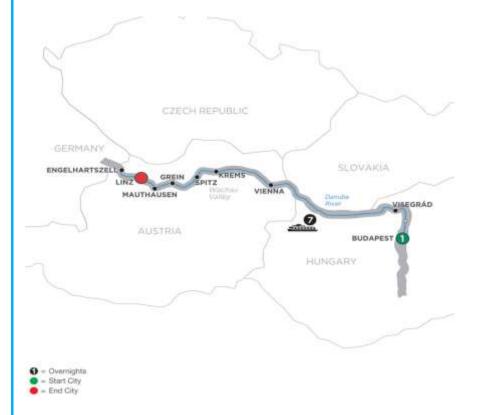
# Cancellation

90-60	days prior to commencement of services: 45% of total price*
59-30	days prior to commencement of services: 60% of total price*
29-8	days prior to commencement of services: 90% of total price*
7-0	days prior to commencement of services: 100% of total price*

#### **Notes:**

- Rates subject to change without prior notice due to circumstances beyond our control e.g. fuel increases, rate of exchange fluctuations.
- In the event of water level problems or any problems of a technical nature, it may be necessary to operate the itinerary by motorcoach or to alter the program.
- Included visits and special features are subject to change. If a change is necessary, a substitute will be offered.

- Please note that your passport should be valid for more than 6 months beyond the date of travel and that you must have at least 2 blank pages on your passport.
- Please contact us if you would like to book pre-tour or post-tour accommodation in Budapest/:inz
- > ROE calculated at 1 USD = Rs. 71 Any fluctuations at the time of payment will alter the cost
- Price based on a minimum of 2 people travelling together



## **About the Ship**

#### **IMPRESSION**

Part of Avalon's cutting-edge fleet of Suite Ships®, the Avalon Impression came onto the river cruising scene with a bang. This gorgeous ship features two full decks of Panorama Suites<sup>SM</sup> with Wall-to-Wall Panoramic Windows that transform the living space into a unique Open-Air Balcony<sup>SM</sup>. With 200 square feet, Panorama Suites<sup>SM</sup> are more than 30% larger than the industry standard, affording you the incomparable opportunity to wake each morning facing the splendid passing scenery. Onboard amenities include an alternative light dining option in the Panorama Bistro, a Fitness Center, complimentary Wi-Fi access, and a spacious Sky Deck with premium lounge chairs, whirlpool, and light al fresco lunches at the Sky Bistro on the Sky Deck.

#### **INCLUDED AMENITIES**

- Wall-to-Wall Panoramic Windows
- Non-smoking interior and staterooms
- Elegant, contemporary design
- Headsets for guided shore excursions in Europe
- Sightseeing with Certified Local Guides
- Room service for Continental breakfast & beverages (service fee applies)
- Complimentary computer use in public areas
- Hair salon

- Self-serve beverage station with complimentary tea, hot chocolate & premium coffees, including decaf
  options
- Behind-the-scenes galley tour
- Nordic walking sticks available onboard for complimentary check-out
- English-speaking TV channels with over 100 free movie options
- Sky Deck game area
- Well-stocked library
- Full-size closet mirror
- Sky Deck with premium lounge chairs and shade awnings
- Elevator
- Outside viewing deck
- Friendly, English-speaking crew and Cruise Director
- Onboard lectures, activities & nightly entertainment
- Sky Deck whirlpool
- Fitness Center
- Lounges and upscale bar serving premium spirits
- Complimentary bicycles available for use on the shore
- Avalon Choice® cruising experience
- Choice of Leisurely, Traditional or Independent sightseeing pace options
- Local Favorites<sup>SM</sup> onboard experiences to bring the customs, cultures and tastes of your destinations to life, including local entertainers, artisans & experts
- Onboard assistance is available to recommend, reserve and further personalize your cruise
- Complimentary Wi-Fi access
- Fresh fruit available throughout the day

