

MAGNIFICENT EUROPE (CHRISTMAS CRUISE) - 2018

14-NIGHT CRUISE

BUDAPEST TO AMSTERDAM

DAY ARRIVE IN BUDAPEST, HUNGARY -

1 EMBARKATION

Arrive in Budapest and board your luxury cruise ship. Spend the evening on board cruising around the famed Parliament Building as the city turns on all her dazzling lights. (D)

DAY BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

2

Discover the “Queen of the Danube” on your city tour beginning with a visit to the Great Market Hall followed by a panoramic tour of both the Buda and the Pest sides of the river. (B,L,D)



DAY VIENNA, AUSTRIA

3

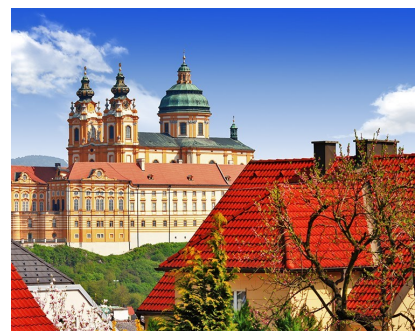
Discover the “City of Waltzes” on a city tour showcasing its many regal splendors, such as the majestic Opera House and St. Stephen’s Cathedral before concluding in Vienna’s historic city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Prefer a more active adventure, then join a guided bike ride along the Danube. Later in the day, enjoy leisure time in Vienna or cycle to Klosterneuburg Monastery on a bike tour (B,L,D)



DAY MELK

4

Set sail through the beautiful Wachau Valley to Melk and visit its magnificent Benedictine Abbey, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Alternatively, join a guided bike tour. (B,L,D)



DAY PASSAU, GERMANY

- 5** Discover the 2,000-year-old city of Passau in one of three ways. Enjoy a walking tour and marvel at Gothic and Italian Baroque architecture and St. Stephen's Cathedral. Guests looking for a more active morning can choose between a guided bike tour along the Danube River, or a guided hike up to the Veste Oberhaus Fortress for panoramic views overlooking three rivers. During the evening, enjoy a festive Christmas celebration. (B,L,D)

**DAY REGENSBURG**

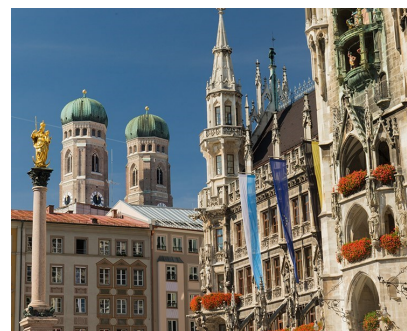
- 6** Explore one of Germany's best preserved medieval cities, Regensburg, on a guided walking tour showcasing the city's architectural highlights, including the Old Town Hall and the Porta Praetoria. As an alternate option, sample some of Bavaria's specialties—beer, sausage and pretzels. And for a more active adventure, bike to Walhalla where you will see the neo-Classical white marble temple. (B,L,D)

**DAY NUREMBERG**

- 7** Enjoy a scenic morning cruise as the ship crosses the Continental Divide via the Main-Danube Canal to Nuremberg. Once in Nuremberg, join a city tour of WWII highlights and then walk through Nuremberg's cobblestone streets to the Imperial castle and 900-year-old city ramparts. (B,L,D)

**DAY NUREMBERG**

- 8** During the morning, travel by train to Munich, the capital of Bavaria and one of Germany's largest cities, often given the nickname, "Germany's secret capital." Enjoy a walking tour that begins at the town center, the most famous square and the heart of the city. You will see the famous Glockenspiel, with its 43 bells and 32 life size figures portraying two scenes of Munich's history, including a wedding and jousters depicting a dance celebrating the end of the plague. Also, see the Frauenkirche, the "Cathedral of Our Dear Lady." Later in the day, enjoy a panoramic tour through the city and back to the train station for your return to Nuremberg. (B,L,D)



DAY BAMBERG

9 Explore enchanting Bamberg, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in one of three ways. Join a guided walking tour of this medieval gem to see its cathedral, Old Town Hall and elegant old mansions. Or taste your way through the city sampling smoked beer, licorice root and Hornla pastry, a local favorite whose recipe dates back to 1427. And for those wishing to explore the town more actively, hop on a bike for a guided bike tour along the Main River and to its quirky quarters beyond the town center. (B,L,D)

**DAY WÜRZBURG**

10 Nestled along the “Romantic Road” in the middle of Germany’s largest wine producing region lies Würzburg. Join a walking tour of this beautiful city bursting with Baroque splendor. You’ll then visit its crown jewel, the Baroque Residenz Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that features an opulent interior, including a grand fresco by Tiepolo. For those who wish a more active adventure, join a guided bike ride through Würzburg and along the Main River. (B,L,D)

**DAY WERTHEIM - MILTENBERG**

11 Wertheim’s old town center still features half-timbered houses and the Gothic architecture of the Stiftskirche, its oldest Protestant church. You may either join a guided walking tour through the historic city center or learn the art of pretzel making with a visit to a local bakery. For those seeking a more active adventure, take a scenic bike ride through the Main River Valley. Later in the day, set sail to Miltenberg, the “Pearl of the Main River.” While on your walking tour, you’ll discover why this medieval town seems to leap from the pages of a fairytale with its 14th- and 15th-century half-timbered, gabled houses; the famed Crooked House; and the venerable Royal Inn, which has been a working hotel since the 17th century. Spend the evening ringing in the New Year with a special onboard celebration. (B,L,D)



DAY RÜDESHEIM - RHINE GORGE**12**

Cruise from the meandering Main River to the captivating Rhine River en route to the winemaking town of Rüdesheim. Once there, you will have a choice of three excursions. Wine connoisseurs will want to go on a wine tasting with a local vintner. Alternatively, visit Siegfried's Mechanical Musical Instrument Museum, home to a remarkable collection of old robotic and self-playing musical instruments; or get more active with a hike through the vineyards. Later in the day, set sail through the captivating UNESCO-designated Rhine Gorge, the most stunningly beautiful stretch of the river. (B,L,D)

**DAY COLOGNE****13**

Once in Cologne, join a guided tour through the Old Town and explore the UNESCO-designated cathedral. Continue on to the Cologne Rathaus, Germany's oldest town hall, the Overstolzenhaus and the Festival Hall. For a different view of the city, visit a local tavern to taste its famous Kölsch beer, only made in Cologne, and Reibekuchen, potato pancakes typically served with apple sauce. (B,L,D)

**DAY AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS****14**

View Amsterdam on a scenic canal cruise followed by a walk to Begijnhof, known for its Middle Age buildings. For a different view of the city, join the Jordaan District tour or the Jewish Heritage tour. The Jordaan District tour begins at the Westerchurch and takes you past the Noordermarkt, the Karthuizerhof and the "9 streets"; afterwards, you'll stop in a local café for a hot beverage and Dutch apple pie. The Jewish Heritage tour begins with a visit to the 17th-century Portuguese Synagogue and the Jewish Historical Museum chronicling the history of the Jewish community in Amsterdam. (B,L,D)

**DAY AMSTERDAM - DISEMBARKATION****15**

Bid farewell to Amsterdam and prepare for your homebound flight. (B)