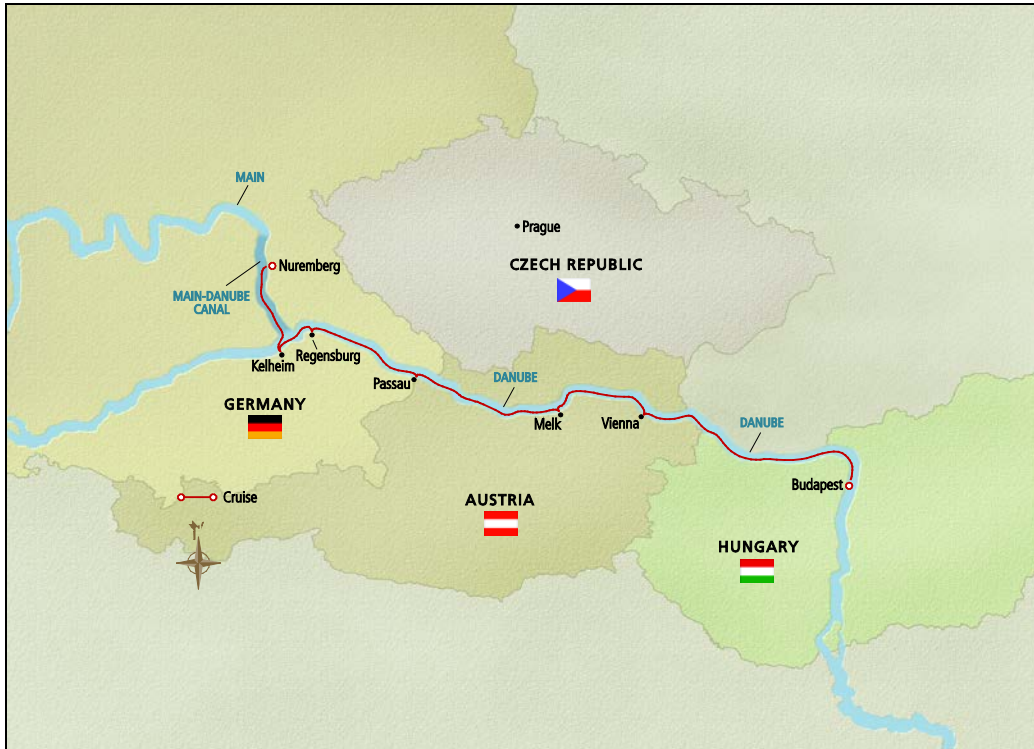




VIKING  
CRUISES

*Exploring the World in Comfort®*

## ***Romantic Danube*** **2013 At-A-Glance**



**During this 8-day journey, encounter the grand cities and quaint villages along the celebrated Danube River. Explore both sides of Hungary’s capital—traditional “Buda” and more cosmopolitan “Pest”—and from Fishermen’s Bastion, see how the river divides this fascinating city. Experience Vienna’s imperial architecture and gracious culture, and tour riverside towns in Austria’s Wachau Valley. In Germany, explore a baroque cathedral and stroll cobbled streets lined with half-timbered houses. Savor the tastes of authentic dishes, learn about local legends, and understand why Strauss immortalized the “Blue Danube” in his famous melody.**

Sail dates available March, May to December 2013

Budapest to Nuremberg *or* Nuremberg to Budapest

Ship sailing this itinerary: MS Vienna, Viking Prestige or Viking Longships

## ***Romantic Danube*** **Journey Highlights**

### **Included Features**

- 8-day cruise with river-view stateroom
- 6 guided tours with audio headset
- All meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners, featuring regional specialties and including Welcome Cocktail Reception & Dinner and Captain's Farewell Dinner
- Visit 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Culture Curriculum<sup>SM</sup>: Learn how to make your own apple strudel; enjoy musical entertainment highlighting Austrian & Hungarian classics; attend lectures on the European Union, Viennese coffee houses and Mozart.

### **Melk's Golden Abbey**

As you sail along a peaceful stretch of the Danube, you approach a gold and ivory imperial fortress, resplendent with elegant details. Once a palace, the abbey at Melk is now a Benedictine monastery, school, museum and a library housing some 80,000 rare books and scrolls. See its interior, featuring soaring frescoes on walls and ceilings, and a glorious spiral staircase, on your tour.

### **Danube's Oldest City**

Walk through Regensburg, one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities. Founded by Marcus Aurelius over 2,000 years ago, its many architectural highlights include the 12<sup>th</sup>-century Old Stone Bridge and St. Peter's Cathedral with its Romanesque tower inside a newer Gothic one.

### **Austria's Wachau Valley**

The Wachau Valley is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, nestled between the quaint Austrian cities of Melk and Krems along the Danube River. Many picturesque towns and vineyards are located along this 24-mile stretch, and the area is perfect for leisurely sailing, taking photographs or just relaxing and enjoying a glass of one of its many local vintages.

### **Classical Music Capital**

Known as the "City of Waltzes," Austria's capital of Vienna is widely considered to be the center of classical music. Here Strauss, Beethoven and Mozart composed many of their best-known works. Visitors can tour the homes of these famous composers and those of Haydn, Schubert, Brahms and more—now museums. Vienna still has a thriving music scene today.

### **Included Tours:**

Budapest city tour  
Vienna city tour  
Melk Abbey  
Passau walking tour & organ concert  
Regensburg walking tour  
Nuremberg city tour

### **Optional Activities:**

Schönbrunn excursion  
Strauss & Mozart concert  
Danube Narrows & Weltenburg Abbey  
World War II tour

\* Optional tours are purchased on board ship and are subject to availability & minimum participation

## *Romantic Danube* Budapest to Nuremberg Itinerary

**Day 1 Budapest, Hungary**

- Budapest airport transfer\*
- Embark ship
- Free day to explore Budapest at your leisure

*Included Meals: Dinner*

**Day 2 Budapest, Hungary**

- City tour of Budapest, a UNESCO Site, including the National Opera House, Heroes' Square, Parliament, Fishermen's Bastion, Matthias Church, Chain Bridge and Elizabeth Bridge
- Scenic cruising along the Danube River
- Welcome Reception & Dinner

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 3 Vienna, Austria**

- City tour of Vienna, a UNESCO Site, including *Ringstrasse*, *Innere Stadt* ("Inner City"), Hofburg Palace, St. Stephan's Cathedral and State Opera House
- Vienna leisure time
- Optional tour to Schönbrunn, a UNESCO Site
- Optional classical concert by Viennese Orchestra

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 4 Melk, Austria**

- Scenic cruising through Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Tour of Melk Abbey

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 5 Passau, Germany**

- City tour of *Dreiflüssestadt* (City on Three Rivers)
- Organ concert  
(Please note that the organ concerts are not held on Sundays or from November to April.)

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 6 Regensburg & Kelheim, Germany**

- City tour of Regensburg, a UNESCO Site, including Gothic St. Peter's Church, Old Town Hall and Old Stone Bridge
- Optional Danube Narrows excursion and Weltenburg Abbey tour
- Captain's Farewell Reception & Dinner

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 7 Main-Danube Canal & Nuremberg, Germany**

- Scenic cruising through Main-Danube Canal
- Nuremberg city tour including Palace of Justice and the Market Square
- Optional World War II historical tour including a visit to The Documentation Center
- Nuremberg leisure time

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 8 Depart**

- Disembark
- Nuremberg airport transfer\*

*Included Meals: Breakfast*

\* Airport transfers included when air is purchased from Viking River Cruises Transfers must be with flights that arrive/depart on ship or included hotel check-in or check-out day only.

See your travel agent or call Viking River Cruises at 1-877-668-4546  
www.vikingrivercruises.com

## *Romantic Danube* Nuremberg to Budapest Itinerary

### **Day 1 Nuremberg, Germany**

- Nuremberg airport transfer\*
- Embark ship

*Included Meals: Dinner*

### **Day 2 Main-Danube Canal & Nuremberg, Germany**

- Scenic cruising through Main-Danube Canal
- Nuremberg city tour including Palace of Justice and the Market Square
- Nuremberg leisure time

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 3 Regensburg & Kelheim, Germany**

- Tour of Regensburg, a UNESCO Site, including Gothic St. Peter's Church, Old Town Hall and Old Stone Bridge
- Optional Danube Narrows excursions and Weltenburg Abbey tour
- Welcome Reception & Dinner

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 4 Passau, Germany**

- City tour of *Dreiflüssestadt* (City on Three Rivers)
- Organ concert  
(Please note that the organ concerts are not held on Sundays or from November to April.)

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 5 Danube River & Melk, Austria**

- Scenic cruising through Wachau Valley, a UNESCO Site
- Tour of Melk Abbey

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 6 Vienna, Austria**

- City tour of Vienna, a UNESCO Site, including *Ringstrasse*, *Innere Stadt* ("Inner City"), Hofburg Palace, St. Stephan's Cathedral and State Opera House
- Vienna leisure time
- Optional tour of Schönbrunn Palace, a UNESCO Site
- Optional classical concert by Viennese Orchestra

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 7 Budapest, Hungary**

- City tour of Budapest, a UNESCO Site, including the National Opera House, Heroes' Square, Parliament, Fishermen's Bastion, Matthias Church, Chain Bridge and Elizabeth Bridge
- Captain's Farewell Reception & Dinner

*Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 8 Budapest, Hungary**

- Disembark
- Budapest airport transfer\*

*Included Meals: Breakfast*

\* Airport transfers included when air is purchased from Viking River Cruises Transfers must be with flights that arrive/depart on ship or included hotel check-in or check-out day only.

## Explore More

More days means more to discover. We offer exciting ways to see even more of the region with extension packages you can add before or after your Viking journey.

### **Budapest Extension Itinerary** **2 nights—\$399 per person**

Explore this legendary Hungarian capital, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its elegant boulevards, Parisian atmosphere and outstanding museums. Take a stroll in the parks of Margaret Island, discover the hidden medieval courtyards of the castle district and eat your fill of savory Hungarian cuisine. Extension package includes two nights at **Hilton Budapest** or **Corinthia Grand**, daily breakfasts and hotel/ship transfers along with the services of a Viking host.

The moderate deluxe **Hilton Budapest** Hotel is located in the heart of the city's Castle District, a UNESCO Site, next to the Fishermen's Bastion and Matthias Church. The hotel has a restaurant, lobby lounge and bar; room service and laundry service; fitness room, a business center and gift shop. Rooms feature mini bar; television; telephone with voicemail; in-room safe and hair dryer.

The deluxe **Corinthia Grand** is located in the heart of Budapest within walking distance of the Opera House and major theaters. The hotel has three restaurants, a café, lobby lounge and bar; room service; laundry services; spa with indoor swimming pool, full-service business center; a beauty salon and gift shop. Rooms feature minibar; television telephone with voicemail; in-room safe and hair dryer.

### **Prague Extension Itinerary** **3 nights—\$699 per person**

Discover the Czech Republic's vibrant capital, the "City of a Hundred Spires". Tour Hradcany Castle and its palaces, churches and museums; visit Gothic St. Vitus Cathedral; and stroll along Charles Bridge. Explore Prague's Jewish heritage in the Josefov Quarter and encounter history and culture in Wenceslas Square. Extension package includes three nights hotel at the **Hilton Prague**, daily breakfasts and hotel/ship transfers, Prague city tour, along with the services of a Viking host.

The superior first class **Hilton Prague** is conveniently located on the right bank of Vltava River within walking distance from the city center and major attractions, and the bus and underground stations are only a five-minute walk from the hotel. The hotel has three restaurants, a bar and a wide selection of shops; a health club and spa offering a swimming pool, dry and wet sauna, jacuzzi, gym, health bar; beauty salon and other amenities. Air-conditioned rooms are equipped with a television, telephone, safe and hair dryer.

\* Hotels are subject to change without notice, at which time a comparable alternative will be offered.

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## The Viking Experience

### Quietvox Tour Earphones

With our Quietvox tour earphones, there are no worries about missing any interesting details during your shore excursions. Each guest will receive a lightweight, portable receiver that can be worn around the neck or slipped into a pocket. The comfortable earpiece with individual volume control allows you to hear your guide's comments no matter where you are standing and makes every place on your tour the "best seat in the house."

### Onboard Enrichment

*Culture Curriculum<sup>SM</sup>*. To help you further appreciate the countries that you will visit, we complement your shore excursion with a broad range of immersive activities, on board and ashore. Your cruise includes a Viennese coffee and apple strudel making demonstration, tour of a baroque Benedictine abbey in Melk, Hungarian and Bavarian folkloric music and lectures on topics such as the European Union and the life and works of Mozart. Times and locations will be announced on board.

As part of our Culture Curriculum, we have partnered with the Smithsonian Institution to bring you exclusive onboard lectures. Artists, performers, historical eyewitnesses and professors all contribute to a fascinating and entertaining program that gives you true insight into the places you visit. Smithsonian lectures will be featured on the following 2012 dates: July 15 on *Viking Legend*, October 21 and November 4 on *Viking Embla*.

*Expert Program Directors*. Viking River Cruises Program Directors are selected for their comprehensive knowledge of the regions you will be visiting. They have a fine appreciation of each destination's nuances and a genuine passion for travel and are there to help from the first moment to the end of your journey. If you have any questions, would like recommendations or have any concerns during your itinerary, do not hesitate to contact your Program Director.

### General Physical Fitness

Our tours and cruises are not physically demanding, however, *because of the nature of many of the sites you will be visiting, this tour may not be appropriate for guests with certain medical conditions and physical restrictions*. Walking tours are often on uneven ground or cobblestones and may include stairs and steep inclines. If you have concerns or questions, please discuss the nature of your itinerary with your Viking River Cruises Travel Consultant.

### Complimentary Wine with Onboard Dinner and Lunch Service

Enjoy regional wine from the Wachau Valley of Austria that is bottled exclusively for Viking River Cruises by Mörwald vintners. We feature two of Austria's most well-known varietals—Grüner Veltliner and Blauer Spatburgunder (as Pinot Noir is known in Austria). Both wines pair most beautifully with our onboard menu of contemporary and regional specialties.



## Before You Go

Visit our website at [vikingrivercruises.com](http://vikingrivercruises.com) (or [vrc.com](http://vrc.com)) where you can not only learn more about all the places you might go with Viking, but you can also immerse yourself in the experience from the comfort of your own home. There is information abound and you can watch videos of destinations, take a virtual tour of a cruise ship or get a list of recommended readings.

### Passports & Visas

Passports are necessary, however no visas are required for U.S. citizens for this itinerary. Non-U.S. citizens, please check your consulate for visa information.

### Viking's All-Inclusive Airfare & Transfers

For your convenience, you can purchase roundtrip trans-oceanic air travel directly from Viking in conjunction with your river cruise or cruisetour. Viking's air packages are a great value because they include your transfers between airport and ship or hotel. And, when you reserve your air with Viking and purchase Viking's all-inclusive travel protection policy, your air travel is covered by the policy as part of your Viking itinerary. Select from more than 165 different gateways (additional gateways available) in economy or the upgraded service of Premium Economy or Business Class (trans-oceanic portion); once your reservation has been made, we will confirm your flight schedules 75 days before departure.

### E-Check Program

Viking offers special incentives when you pay via e-check (electronic debit to your checking account)—a quick and convenient way to pay for your vacation. Ask for details when making your reservation.

### Viking Travel Protection

Viking Travel Protection allows you to cancel your trip for any reason. Enjoy peace of mind knowing that whatever may arise—even a pre-existing medical condition—you retain 100% of your travel value. Premiums are based on trip cost and start at only \$249 per person!

### Climate – Average High/Low Temperature (°F)

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Budapest	51/37	62/45	71/53	77/58	80/61	80/60	72/54	61/46	47/37	38/31
Melk	48/32	58/41	66/49	73/55	77/58	75/56	68/51	57/42	45/35	36/27
Nuremberg	47/31	56/37	65/45	71/51	74/54	73/53	67/48	57/40	43/33	37/27
Vienna	49/35	57/41	67/49	72/55	77/59	77/59	69/53	57/43	44/35	39/30

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