

THOMSON TRAVEL PRESENTS ROMANTIC DANUBE

WITH VIKING RIVER CRUISES ON THE VIKING GULLVEIG 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS ~ APRIL 25 – MAY 2, 2026

Air departs US on April 24th in order to arrive in Regensburg on April 25th

Visit historic Salzburg. Explore Göttweig Abbey, one of Austria's most revered monastic centers, and make dumplings with Wachau Valley apricots. Spend two days in Vienna, and celebrate the city's musical heritage at a concert featuring works by Mozart and Strauss. Soak in the healing qualities of Budapest's thermal baths. With medieval towns, grand cities and stunning scenery, this 8-day journey on the "Blue Danube" is one you are sure to love.

DAY 1 | REGENSBURG, GERMANY

Embark your ship and settle into your stateroom. Having escaped major damage during World War II, the picturesque town of Regensburg is one of Europe's best-preserved medieval cities, the oldest city along the Danube and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Old Stone Bridge, constructed in the 12th century, is a masterpiece of medieval engineering with its 16 arches. St. Peter's Cathedral is widely considered Bavaria's best Gothic architectural work. The old town's Neupfarrplatz square is a cross section of history—it was once a thriving Jewish quarter, a bustling marketplace and the site of Nazi book burnings.

DAY 2 | REGENSBURG, GERMANY

Regensburg dates back to Roman times and was the first capital of Bavaria. Today, the city has a laid-back atmosphere and its warren of narrow alleys are a delight to explore. Amid its riverside streets is the small Alte Wurstküche tavern, the world's first sausage kitchen. It opened its doors in the 12th century to serve the construction workers of the Old Stone Bridge and St. Peter's Cathedral, making it the first fast-food restaurant ever. In line with Bavarian tradition, visits to the pub are customary for many of the locals and serve as a ritual of community life.

DAY 3 | PASSAU, GERMANY

Founded by the Celts over 2,000 years ago, Passau is one of Bavaria's oldest cities. Known as the "City of Three Rivers," it rests at the confluence of the Inn, Ilz and Danube rivers. The city has long enjoyed its strategic position and grew to great economic and political power because of it. The legacy of its past prosperity lives on in graceful arcades, colorful houses with rococo facades and the glorious baroque St. Stephen's Cathedral, home to one of Europe's largest pipe organs. Passau is also where two nations meet; it is here that the German-Austrian border begins.

DAY 4 | SCENIC SAILING: WACHAU VALLEY

Sail through a serene tapestry of terraced vineyards, forested slopes, charming towns and castle ruins in Austria's Wachau Valley, celebrated as perhaps the most scenic stretch of the Danube. Journey 18 miles through this vast UNESCO World Heritage Site, where the river courses through picturesque hillsides. Gaze upon the prolific grapevines and quaint wine-producing villages hugging the shores—the legacy of vintners that stretch as far back as Celtic and Roman times and an echo of the more than 30 monasteries that served as vineyards in Renaissance days.

RIVER & OCEAN CRUISES











DAY 4 | KREMS, AUSTRIA

A small university town at the eastern end of the Danube's Wachau Valley, Krems is surrounded by terraced vineyards. In its heyday, during the 12th century, Krems held even more importance than Vienna for its iron, grain, salt and wine trade. As to the latter, the city has played a long and celebrated part in the popularity of the Wachau's wine culture; the valley's south slopes in Krems are bathed in sunlight all day and create some of the best Riesling and Veltliner wines in the world. The city's cobblestone streets, taverns, wine bars and coffeehouses have a timeless appeal.

DAY 5 | VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Renowned as the "City of Waltzes," Austria's capital city of Vienna is Europe's center of classical music. Strauss and Mozart composed many of their finest pieces here. Vienna's musical history is matched by the elegant, graceful architecture that lines the Ringstrasse, the wide boulevard encircling the Inner City. Baroque, neo-Renaissance, Gothic-Romanesque and other splendidly styled structures, from the Hofburg Palace to the Vienna State Opera, take the breath away with their grand facades. Vienna has a more intimate side too: inviting footpaths lead through green parks and its famed Viennese cafés sweeten any stay with coffee and the city's delectable *Sachertorte*.

DAY 6 | VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Vienna is considered one of Europe's greatest cultural hubs. Its art scene has long been established with the Hapsburg's collection of fine art, now housed at the Kunsthistorisches Museum. Today, Vienna's modern side showcases street art murals that don the side of buildings along the banks of the Danube. Ingrained in local life is the long-embraced tradition of coffeehouses; UNESCO includes Viennese coffeehouse culture on its list of Intangible Cultural Heritages. It is considered one of life's pleasures to while away an afternoon over an Einspänner coffee and a pastry.

DAY 7 | SCENIC SAILING: DANUBE BEND

Take in the natural beauty of the fabled "Blue Danube" as you pass through the Danube Bend, considered one of the most beautiful sections of the river. Cruising this 40-mile stretch through northern Hungary, you will see peaceful farmland and an ancient castle that once served as hunting grounds for royals and visiting dignitaries. As you sail the passage between the Börzsöny and Pilis Ranges, you will marvel at the steep hills draped with bucolic forests. And delight in the majestic church domes peering at the waterway from inviting villages and historic cities.

DAY 7 | BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

Riverside beauty and a vibrant cultural scene blend together in Budapest to form one of Europe's most rewarding cities. Hungary's enchanting capital straddles the banks of the Danube, with traditional hillside Buda on one side and modern Pest on the other. By day, stunning art nouveau buildings, stalwart castles and grand palaces set the stage for inspiring strolls and long soaks in thermal spas. By night, the shimmering lights of the Parliament building dance across the waters of the Danube, the Chain Bridge uniting it all as a dramatic centerpiece.

DAY 8 | BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

Bid farewell to your fellow guests and journey home. Or spend more time exploring, perhaps joining one of our extensions.

Rates are per person double occupancy and include cruise, port charges and government fees. Rates with roundtrip airfare from Indianapolis also include taxes and transfers to/from ship. AIR PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND WILL BE TICKETED ONCE YOUR GROUP IS PAID IN FULL. FLIGHTS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE ONCE TICKETED.

PRE-NIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE PLEASE CHECK WITH AMY FOR RATES.
\$150 per person will be added to the Viking air rates if the group wants to fly together.

PASSPORT REQUIRED

FULL PAYMENT IS DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING TO SECURE YOUR RESERVATION

\$100 per person is non refundable. The balance is fully refundable until 120 days prior to departure.

Itinerary, Perks, and Prices are subject to change.