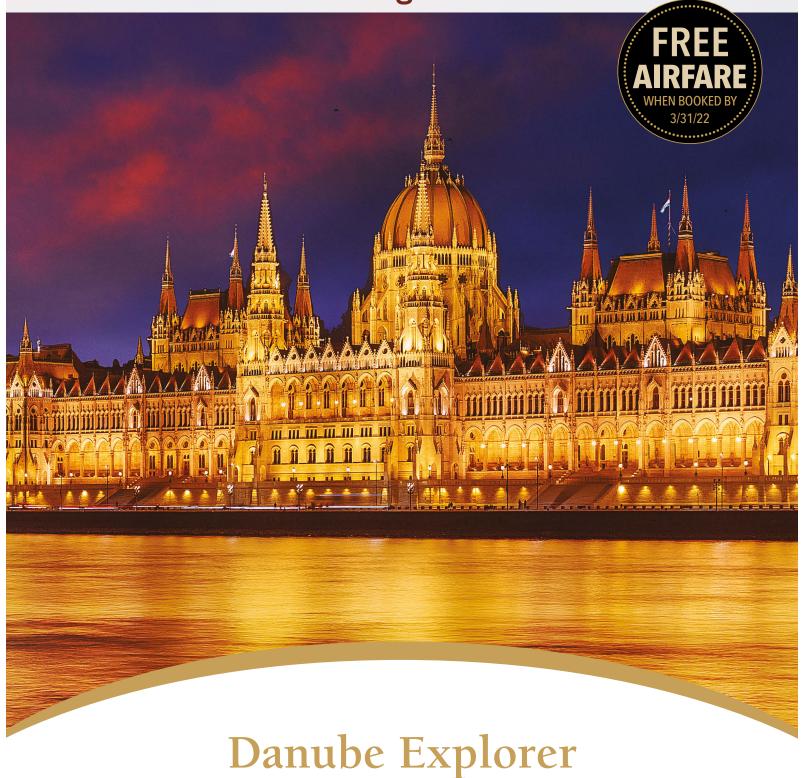
**Sterling Travel** 



The Czech Republic • Germany • Austria • Slovakia • Hungary

**Tour Dates:** August 3 - 11, 2023



# Danube Explorer





DAY 1 Depart the USA: Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Prague, Czech Republic.

DAY 2 Prague, Czech Republic: Welcome to the Czech Republic! Upon arrival you will be met at the airport by a representative of Mayflower Cruises and Tours and transferred to your hotel in Prague. The day is at leisure to begin discovering your new surroundings.

DAY 3 Prague: After breakfast, enjoy an included city tour, highlighting the famous sites of this beautiful city. Following a brief panoramic drive, the heart of the city is discovered on foot. See Old Town Square with its historic astronomical clock and the medieval Charles Bridge. The tour concludes at the hotel. During free time this afternoon, continue to explore the city on your own, or join the optional excursion to the Terezin Concentration Camp. Meal: B

DiscoverMORE: Terezin Concentration Camp (additional expense)

DAY 4 Prague – Passau, Germany: Depart Prague and journey by motorcoach to Passau, Germany, where your friendly Captain and crew welcome you onboard your luxurious Emerald Cruises Star-Ship. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore the ship and become acquainted with the onboard amenities. This evening join your fellow guests for dinner onboard. Meals: B, D

DAY 5 Passau: Narrow cobblestone streets welcome you to Passau, a town nestled on the confluence of three of Europe's main waterways. This important historic trading center borders Austria and Croatia, and a distinctive blend of cultures can be found here. Your local guide will take you on a walking tour of the town, touching on its distinctive historic buildings. See the Baroque St. Stephen's Cathedral with its ornate columns and arches and the Altes Rathaus, or Town Hall, a collection of eight historic patrician houses built between the 14th and 15th centuries. Alternatively, if you are feeling more active, participate in a guided hike to Veste Oberhaus. Meals: B, L, D

EmeraldACTIVE: Guided hike to Veste Oberhaus (instead of city tour)

DiscoverMORE: Bavaria Live (additional expense)

DAY 6 Linz, Austria / Ceský Krumlov, Czech Republic: Today's adventure takes you to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed town of Ceský Krumlov. With its 13th-century castle, meandering river, and a maze of quaint alleyways, this town has one of the best-preserved centers in Europe. Join your local guide to traverse a labyrinth of winding cobblestone lanes as you experience the charming atmosphere of Ceský Krumlov's medieval buildings and iconic castle complex. During the excursion, visit the 15th-century St. Vltus' Church, a highlight of the town. Meals: B, D EmeraldPLUS: A guided walking tour of Ceský Krumlov DiscoverMORE\*: A tour of Salzburg (additional expense)

\* DiscoverMORE operates at same time as the included excursion

DAY 7 Melk - Dürnstein, Austria: Relax as you cruise down the Danube River early this morning, passing delightful apricot orchards and beautiful terraced vineyards that produce some of the world's best wine, before arriving in Melk. Enjoy an included tour of Melk Abbey, originally a lavish castle that was gifted to Benedictine monks during the 11th century. This opulent Baroque building features ornate gold leaf walls, seemingly endless spiral staircases and is home to some of the most important collections of medieval manuscripts in the world. After the tour, sail through the idyllic Wachau Valley, passing medieval villages, vineyards and areas of natural beauty. Upon arrival in Dürnstein, you can choose time at leisure to wander through this enchanting village, or hike to the ruins of Dürnstein Castle where Richard the Lionheart was held prisoner. Alternatively, for a different perspective, stay in Melk and join a guided bike ride from Melk to Dürnstein. Meals: B, L, D DiscoverMORE (from Melk): Tour of Schallaburg Castle (additional expense)

**DiscoverMORE** (from Dürnstein)\*: Weissenkirchen vineyard hike with tasting (additional expense)

EmeraldACTIVE\*: A guided bike ride along the Danube EmeraldACTIVE\*: A guided hike to Dürnstein Castle

\*these activities overlap; only one can be selected

DAY 8 Vienna: Welcome to Vienna, Austria's capital and the capital of classical music. The city perfectly encapsulates the opulence of the Habsburg Monarchy and their ornate Baroque palaces. On the included city tour, see monuments and grand

buildings as the coach drives along the famous Ringstrasse.

During the walking tour, stroll with your guide through the city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Marvel at the classic architectural styles of the buildings, see St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Hofburg Palace, right in the middle of the city center. If you are feeling more active, opt to explore on two wheels, cycling along the river to experience the city by bike. Meals: B, L, D EmeraldACTIVE: Bike tour in Vienna (instead of city tour)

DiscoverMORE: Tastes of Vienna tour (additional expense)

DiscoverMORE: An exclusive Viennese evening concert with the music of

DAY 9 Bratislava, Slovakia: Today you sail into the capital of Slovakia. This graceful nation became an independent country in 1993, and since then, Bratislava has flourished as a new capital and made a name for itself as a cultural center. The romantic cobblestone lanes that weave through the city are explored with your local guide as you enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town center. See the Slovak National Theatre and a range of Gothic and Art Nouveau buildings. Alternatively, embark on a guided hike to Bratislava Castle, a landmark steeped in legends that looks as though it came from the pages of a fairytale book. Meals: B, L, D EmeraldACTIVE: A guided hike to Bratislava Castle (instead of walking tour)

EmeraldPLUS: Local Slovakian entertainment onboard

Mozart and Strauss (additional expense)

DAY 10 Budapest, Hungary: Welcome to the "Pearl of the Danube". Explore Budapest's cobbled medieval quarter as you embark on a coach tour through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city center. Your guide will highlight a number of architectural wonders from across the ages, enabling you to follow a journey from Budapest's Roman beginnings to the addition of ornate Romanesque and Baroque architecture in the centuries that followed. If you are feeling more active, you may instead choose to hike to Buda Hill. The surrounding area has been rebuilt several times, most recently following the air raids of WWII. Some 18th-century Baroque houses still stand, best explored by foot along the medieval paths and alleyways in the area around Buda Castle. This evening, join your fellow guests for a folklore performance onboard and a traditional Hungarian dinner. Relax on the Sun Deck and enjoy the fabulous view of the city, aglow in nighttime splendor. Meals: B, L, D EmeraldACTIVE: Guided hike to Buda Hill (instead of city tour)

DiscoverMORE\*: Tour of Szentendre (additional expense)
DiscoverMORE\*: Jewish Heritage Tour (additional expense)
EmeraldPLUS: A traditional Hungarian folklore show

**DAY 11** Budapest / USA: Bid a fond farewell to Europe and return home with wonderful memories of life enriching experiences from your cruise along the Danube River. **Meal: B** 

Itinerary is subject to change.

#### **CRUISE AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

**Days 2 and 3 –** Hotel Grandium, or similar, Prague, Czech Republic

Days 4 through 10 - aboard an Emerald Cruises Star-Ship

Post-cruise hotel stays available in Budapest. Call for details.



## **Exceptional Inclusions**

- 21 Meals: 9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 7 dinners
- Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Visit five countries
- Two-night **hotel stay and touring** in Prague, the Czech Republic
- Seven-night cruise in a suite or stateroom of your choice onboard the vessel
- · All gratuities included
- First-class service by an English-speaking crew
- Onboard Activity Manager will support all EmeraldACTIVE excursions and host daily onboard wellness activities, games, classes and evening entertainment
- Shore excursions with English-speaking local guides
- Personal **listening device** for onboard excursions
- Most meals included onboard with a variety of international cuisine
- Complimentary regional wines, beer and soft drinks accompany onboard lunches and dinners
- Complimentary **bottled water** in your stateroom
- Complimentary WiFi onboard
- Complimentary bicycles onboard for use ashore
- All port charges included
- \$55 in Mayflower Money

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  the DiscoverMORE's operate simultaneously; only one can be selected.

# **Emerald Cruises Star-Ships**

Built: 2014-20 Speed: 15.5 mph Staterooms: 19 Suites: 72 Length: 443 ft. Crew: 47

#### SUN DECK **Public Areas and Ship Amenities** Sun Deck with Deck Chairs 2 Navigation Bridge Sky Barbeque HORIZON DECK Golf Putting Green Games Area 40 338 336 334 332 330 328 326 324 322 320 318 Retractable Glass Roof Walking Track Oaytime Pool & Bar / Evening Cinema VISTA DECK The Terrace Horizon Bar and Lounge Elevator Reception RIVIERA DECK Wellness Area Fitness Area Reflections Restaurant Hairdresser Balcony Balcony Bedroom Bedroom Bedroom Bedroom Bathroom Bathroom Bathroom Entry Entry **Owner's One-Bedroom Suite Grand Balcony Suite Panorama Balcony Suite Emerald Stateroom**

Danube Explorer River Cruise			AUGUST 3, 2023	
			PER PERSON	SINGLE
CAT	STATEROOM / SUITE	DECK	TWIN	HOOM
E	Emeraid Stateroom	Riviera	\$4,885	+\$3,385
D	Emeraid Stateroom	Riviera	\$4,939	+\$3,419
	Panorama Balcony Suite	Vista	\$5,719	+\$3,969
В	Panorama Balcony Suite	Vista	\$5,769	+\$4,005
Α	Panorama Balcony Suite	Horizon	\$6,079	+\$4,225
s	Grand Balcony Suite	Horizon	\$6,705	N/A
SA	Owner's One-Bedroom Suite	Horizon	\$7,225	N/A

315ft<sup>2</sup>

### FREE AIR when booked by 3/31/22!

Full fare round trip air from Denver is \$,700 per person

Air itineraries may not be available until documents are received. Air seats are assigned by the airline for the entire group. Seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of tickets and documents at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments are vital to your reservation, we recommend individual air reservations rather than booking air with the group.



180ft<sup>2</sup>



162ft<sup>2</sup>

### Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) for River Cruises - \$899 - \$969 depending on cabin category rate

This nonrefundable fee will provide a refund to you during the instance that you have to cancel your trip. The cancellation has to be for a covered reason (see Plan for details on coverage) and we have to be notified at least one day prior to departure. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness or the illness or death of an immediate family member, TPP will provide a refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets are purchased through Mayflower Cruises & Tours. Please review the Plan for details on coverage. Should you choose not to purchase our TPP, the following per person cancellation charges will be assessed for all tours and optional excursion costs:

- 91 days or more prior to departure: Deposit Amount
- 90 days to day of departure: 100% of total tour
   No refund on unused portions of the tour
- No refund on unused portions of the tour

Exclusions: Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its Refund and Cancellation Policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours. Plan and benefits offered and administered by Trip Mate, Inc.









210ft<sup>2</sup>



FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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email at aikin@bresnan.net