

AUTHENTIC DANUBE

8 Days | Vienna to Nuremberg

★★★★★ 4.7/5 64 reviews



8 days



2 countries



UNESCO

Go off the beaten path from Vienna to Nuremberg and uncover the wonders that rest along the Danube.

As your adventure starts, castles, stunning architecture, natural wonders and rich history ensue. Discover the old walled city of Nuremberg and its mesmerizing castles. Stroll through countless enchanting towns and villages, all teeming with magnificent architecture and age-old tradition. Explore Weissenkirchen and its beautiful landscapes. And in the historical capital of Vienna, you'll be met with Austrian grandeur and mystique on your search for new inspiration along the Danube.

Generations Family Program (select sailings): Share the enchantment of this region with the special young people in your life. These cruise/tours not only feature unique, fun-filled adventures for families to enjoy together, they're also packed with culturally and historically significant experiences designed to spark creativity and lifelong learning.

[VIENNA TO NUREMBERG](#)

Note: The itineraries presented are subject to modification due to water levels, closures because of public holidays or other uncontrollable factors. Every effort will be made to operate programs as planned, but changes may still be necessary throughout the cruise. This day-to-day schedule is

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subject to change. Your final day-to-day schedule will be provided onboard on the first day of your cruise.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION VIENNA PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

A stay in Vienna, one of Europe's most beloved cultural capitals, is always a good choice. Extend your Danube voyage here for three days to experience the best this enchanting city has to offer, with an expert local host to guide your way.

- 2 nights at the Anantara Palais Hansen Vienna Hotel (or similar)
- Breakfast daily and all service charges, taxes, and portorage
- Vienna Discovery
- English-speaking expert
- All transfers

Click here for full details.

DAY 1 VIENNA (EMBARK)

Transfer from Vienna International Airport to your ship. If your cruise package includes a group arrival transfer or if you have purchased a private transfer, you will be greeted by a Uniworld representative and transferred to the ship.

Note: For Arrival, Departure and Transfer details, please visit [Uniworld.com/transfers](https://uniworld.com/transfers). For Port Location details, please visit [Uniworld.com/ports](https://uniworld.com/ports).



DAY 2 VIENNA

On this day, explore the "City of Waltzes" and dive into its vast artistic legacy. The city is known for its imperial palaces, famous residents, and expansive art collections.



Featured Excursion

SCHÖNBRUNN PALACE TOUR

Perhaps the apex of baroque design in Vienna, Schönbrunn Palace's gardens and structures form a perfectly integrated masterwork; it was Empress Maria Theresa's favorite palace, and she made it the social and political center of her empire, beginning in 1740. Your visit today will concentrate on the rooms occupied by Emperor Franz Joseph and his empress, Elisabeth (known as Sissi, she was enormously popular in her day). Franz Joseph restored the state rooms to their rococo splendor, but his private rooms reflect his rather severe nature, making for an illuminating contrast.

Choose between...

MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR

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Watch as history comes alive on this exploration of the city at the interactive multimedia venue Time Travel Vienna. Discover Vienna's eventful history in a unique way; Time Travel Vienna features a 5D cinema, animatronic wax figures, rides, and multimedia shows equipped with extraordinary sound and light effects. After, you'll embark on a humorous and expertly-led walk around the city that will bring you to the historic St. Stephen's Cathedral.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

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SCHÖNBRUNN ROYAL EXPERIENCE

Learn more about the everyday life of the imperial family at the "Schloss Schönbrunn Experience" Children's Museum. Dress up as a prince or princess, learn the secret language of fans, play with imperial toys, or set the table for an imperial dinner. Schönbrunn Palace, the former summer residence of the Habsburg rulers, is a stunning 1,441 room Baroque palace that's revered as one of the most important architectural and historical monuments in the country. Marvel at its over 300 years of history that reflect the changing tastes of former monarchs and wander through its vast gardens.


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Masterpiece Collection

 Providing the most all-inclusive luxury to our guests is the heart and soul of our brand and that will never change. Yet sometimes our guests want something that goes even "above and beyond" our included experiences. In light of this, we now offer guests a curated selection of optional excursions, available for an additional charge.

VIENNA CULINARY WALKING TOUR

 Duration:
3 hours

 Activity Level:
Intermediate

 \$93 pre-purchase
€79 EUR onboard

Our culinary tour starts in a place of great significance to the people of Vienna, a coffee house. Viennese coffee house culture is a hallmark of local history, and even has UNESCO designation. Though the UNESCO designation refers to coffee house culture collectively, rather than a specific location, we've selected one of the city's most traditional spots for enjoying a cup of coffee with a slice of cake. Next, we'll walk to Graben Square, where we'll sample homemade breads with an assortment of spreads and beer. And after that, it's on to the Stephansplatz, the square surrounding the beautiful Saint Stephen's Cathedral. We'll stop by one of Vienna's oldest cellar vaults at a nearby wine shop for an aperitif of a typical Viennese white wine.

**Masterpiece Collection are optional experiences that go above and beyond our daily selection of included excursions and can be booked for an additional fee. Select Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences can be pre-booked. Please note that requests to pre-book must be made by calling our Reservations Team no later than 6 days prior to departure and are subject to availability. Some venues are limited in the number of guests they can accommodate. Guests can book onboard (space permitting) and pay in Euros. Pre-booked Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences are refundable up to 5 days prior to the cruise/tour start date; if inside of 5 days they are non-refundable. Select Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences require a minimum number of participants and are subject to cancellation (with full refund) if minimum is not met. Masterpiece Collection Optional Experiences are non-commissionable. Prices*

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are subject to change. Masterpiece Collection excursions may not operate if they occur on a holiday or if they require a minimum number of participants and that minimum is not met.

DAY 3 WEISSENKIRCHEN, MELK

Start your day in the heart of the Danube's Wachau Valley, strolling through Weissenkirchen's idyllic wine village while sampling mouth watering apricot treats. Named for its white church that dominates the landscape, the city is flanked by vineyard-lined hills, historic houses, and beautiful courtyards. The Melk Abbey is a baroque monastery and sits atop a rocky formation overlooking the Danube.

In the evening, a special Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you.



Featured Excursion

LET'S GO: VINEYARD HIKE

If you're up for a hike, join a group on a hike up through the vineyards. A stairway at the church will take you past the ancient cemetery and up to the hiking trail that leads through the vineyards planted with Riesling and Grüner Veltliner grapes. You'll enjoy expansive views over the river valley as you approach your resting point. An easy walk back to the ship; instead of a reverse hike, you can comfortably stroll back into the village via a different route, passing many small vintners along the way.

Choose between...

MELK ABBEY WITH LIBRARY VISIT

The Babenbergs, a great medieval ducal family that controlled a wide swath of Austria before yielding to the Habsburgs, were the first to erect a castle on the hill above Melk, which they subsequently gave to Benedictine monks. These monks, some 900 years ago, turned it into a fortified abbey—and the greatest center of learning in Central Europe. Their library was celebrated far and wide (and still is; Umberto Eco paid tribute to it in his best-selling novel *The Name of the Rose*). Medieval monks there created more than 1,200 manuscripts, sometimes spending an entire lifetime hand-lettering a single volume. Today the library contains some 100,000 volumes, among them more than 80,000 works printed before 1800. This beautiful complex, completely redone in the early 18th century, is a wonderful example of baroque art and architecture, and the views from its terrace are spectacular. As you walk through the abbey's Marble Hall with your guide, look up at the ceiling fresco painted by Paul Troger: Those classical gods and goddesses represent Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI, allegorically bringing his people from dark to light and demonstrating the link he claimed to the original Roman Empire. After your tour of the abbey, you'll have time to explore Melk on your own, or you can take the motorcoach back to the ship.



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WEISSENKIRCHEN VILLAGE WALK WITH WINE TASTING

You've seen the apricot orchards along the river banks; now taste the fruit. Begin with an easy walk to Weissenkirchen, which may be the prettiest village in the Wachau—and that's saying quite a bit. Named for its famous white church, Weissenkirchen is simply picture-perfect. Its centuries-old wine estates, houses with colorful flower boxes, lovely gardens, and apricot orchards make for a wonderfully idyllic setting between the river and the mountains. Later, sample some Wachau wines at a local winery where your guide will share various details about why these extraordinary wines are so unique.



SECRETS OF WEISSENKIRCHEN

Weissenkirchen was once the hub of the Wachau Valley, and the main hub of Weissenkirchen was its historic church—in fact, the town's name translates to “white church.” You'll be taken on a rare tour of the church today, during which you'll climb up the tower to stand under the bells, peek into the room where they used to hide their treasure, and more.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.



DAY 4 ENGELHARTSZELL, PASSAU, VILSHOFEN

A new day brings new experiences in the forest-lined district of Engelhartzell. Experience Germany's great outdoors by biking along the Danube River. Arrive in the afternoon at the “City of Three Rivers,” Passau, where the Danube, Inn, and Ilz rivers join together, at one time bringing an influx of wealth and culture into the region.

Featured Excursions

LET'S GO: SCENIC BAVARIAN RIVER BIKING

Set off on an invigorating bike ride from Engelhartzell to Passau, led by an experienced professional bike guide. Wind your way through the lovely countryside, along the Danube's right side, into the picturesque Danube Valley. These particular landscapes are some of the most beautiful in all of Europe—characterized by expansive vineyards, tree-lined slopes, and castle-dotted hillsides—and seamlessly blend the region's cultural, historical, and natural components together. Pedal onwards toward Passau, past more charming villages, meadows, and orchards, rounding out your trip in Passau's Old Town.

PASSAU WALKING TOUR

The skyline of Passau is dominated by two buildings that owe their existence to the prince-bishops who ruled the city until 1803: the great fortress looming on a hill above the three rivers, home to the bishops until the 17th century, and the green onion domes of St. Stephen's Cathedral. As you walk through the cobblestone streets toward those green onion domes, you'll realize that Passau retains the layout of the medieval town.



However, many of the wooden medieval buildings burned to the ground in the 17th century, and the prince-bishops imported Italian artists to build a new cathedral and a magnificent new residence for the bishops themselves. As a result, these splendid structures flaunt Italian baroque and rococo style and ornamentation, complete with opulent gilding and wonderful frescoes. Your guide will introduce you to some of the architectural highlights—the rococo stairways of the New Residence; the cathedral; and the Town Hall, which boasts a magnificent atrium adorned with large paintings by Ferdinand Wagner—and make sure you get a close-up view of the point where the three rivers meet.

PEDAL PASSAU

Head out on a cycling excursion on the famous Danube Bike Trail, venturing through Passau, Engelhartszell, and other fascinating locales. This flat pathway hugs the river and offers spectacular views of Germany's lush scenery. The Danube Bike Trail is one of Europe's largest, following stretches of the Danube in Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary.

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Choose between...

ILZ RIVER SPLASH

Enjoy an afternoon on the water with the chance to try out rowing, canoeing, or paddle-boarding on the Ilz River, nicknamed the "Black Pearl," due to the moors and bogs at its river basin that give the water a mesmerizing black color. The Ilz is a paradise for kayakers and paddle boarders alike and allows people of all experience levels to have fun here.

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or

TREASURE HUNT TREK

Join a local geocaching guide on a unique discovery of Passau's historical and hidden spots. Pay close attention to clues and hints as you make your way from one station to the next, uncovering important historical information about your current location. Each station also includes a special activity for kids.

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DAY 5 DEGGENDORF, STRAUBING

Nestled between Regensburg and Passau sits a town surrounded by the foothills of the Bavarian Forest, Deggendorf. Journey deep into the alluring Bavarian Forest National Park, Germany's first national park, and discover outdoor leisure at its best.

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Featured Excursions

BAVARIAN FOREST ADVENTURE

Enter the Bavarian Forest, Germany's first and largest national park, to discover an abundant wilderness covered in diverse flora and fauna. This area is home to several unique craft traditions, and you'll have your choice of which ones you'd like to discover today.

Enjoy a tasting of local schnapps. In Germany, schnapps refers to any hard liquor, and each is distinguished by the ingredients it is distilled from. The word means "snap," since schnapps is generally "snapped" back in the style of a shot.

From there, you'll choose to either see how the local style of glassware is crafted, or for a more active outing, join us on a visit to a former Silver Mine. Ride up to the mine by cable car, get your helmet and dive deep into the mountain.

NIGHTS OUT: THE REGENSBURG CATHEDRAL CHOIR

This evening, Regensburger Domspatzen will treat you to a private concert in their famous Gothic cathedral. Literally translated to "The Regensburg Cathedral Sparrows," the Domspatzen is the oldest boys' choir in the world, dating back to the 10th century.

INTO THE WOODS

Enter the Bavarian Forest, Germany's first and largest national park, to discover an abundant wilderness covered in diverse flora and fauna.

You'll explore the forest in one of two ways today. You can choose to join a family host to see how the local style of glassware is crafted. Or for those looking for a more active outing, join a family host on a visit to a former silver mine. Ride up to the mine by cable car, get your helmet, and dive deep into the mountain.

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DAY 6 REGENSBURG

The nearly 2,000-year-old history of Regensburg begins with a Roman fort in 90 AD, from which Regensburg grew into the large and prosperous trade center that it became in the last few centuries of the Medieval period. This long history has been excellently preserved through Regensburg's iconic architecture—particularly its many Gothic and Romanesque churches and Patrician houses.



Featured Excursion

THE ADVENTURE BALL

A short drive outside of Regensburg, a giant wooden ball sits right on the shores of a beautifully blue Bavarian lake. Made up of twisting walkable paths, this "adventure ball" is the la

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kind in the whole world. Explore this fun site with an expert guide, walk to the top of the ball for amazing views, glide back down to the bottom via the sphere's "mega slide," and take a short hike around the lake to learn about local plants and animals. With some free time at the end, you can stop for refreshments at the on-site restaurant, attempt the climbing wall, or test your skills at the balancing path.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

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Choose between...

REGENSBURG WALKING TOUR

People have been describing Regensburg as "old and new" for a thousand years. A single structure perfectly illustrates this: Porta Praetoria, the gate built by the Romans during Marcus Aurelius' reign. The gate and adjacent watchtower have been incorporated into a much newer building, but the plaster has been removed to reveal the ancient stones laid so long ago.

As you walk through the cobbled lanes of the UNESCO-designated Old Town, the city's 2,000-year history is similarly revealed: the Stone Bridge that made Regensburg a 12th-century trading powerhouse, the Gothic town hall where the Imperial Diet met for three centuries, the 13th-century fortified patrician houses, and the spectacular Cathedral of St. Peter, whose magnificent 14th-century stained-glass windows alone are worth your walk.

You'll have free time to explore on your own. It's very hard to get lost in Regensburg because the spires of the cathedral are visible all over town, so don't hesitate to roam. The historic quarter not only boasts almost a thousand beautiful old buildings, but also many cozy pubs and some great shopping. The ship is docked conveniently close, so it's easy to drop your treasures off and go back for more.

or

"FROM HOPS FIELD TO BEER STEIN" FARM VISIT

Hops vines grow up their strings in a field tower almost twice a person's height. They're grown for their flowers, which add a distinctive flavor to beer—but the fields they grow in add a distinctive flavor to the hops. You could call it *terroir* for beer, and you can delve into hops cultivation and hops brewing today. Travel through Bavaria's Halledau region, the largest hops growing district in the world, and meet an enthusiastic ambassador of hops growing and beer making. She will give you a quick and lively history of hops in Germany—including Bavaria's law governing the making of beer, which has specified since 1560 that the only ingredients permitted in beer are water, barley, and hops—and lead you on a tour through the growing fields her family owns, followed by a craft beer tasting in the cozy barn turned beer hall. It's a delicious way to get to know a fascinating aspect of the international farm-to-table movement.

DAY 7 NUREMBERG

The archetypal medieval German city, Nuremberg was once the unofficial capital of the Holy Roman Empire, housing many German kings in the Kaiserburg castle complex. Later, this city became the

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epicenter of the Nazi party. When the end of WWII left Nuremberg almost completely leveled, it was chosen to be the site of the war crimes tribunal—the Nuremberg Trials. Now, most of the city has been restored, including the old castle.

In the evening, a special Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you.

Featured Excursion

THE NUREMBERG EXPRESS

Start with a delicious bit of gingerbread as you walk with your guide around the city center. After a little while, you'll find yourself at a station, where you'll board a choo choo train for a sightseeing ride around Nuremberg. After all that exploring, it'll be time for another snack, so follow your guide to a Bratwurst shop for a taste of the city's famous treat: bread rolls stuffed with Nuremberg sausages.

Only available on sailings that belong to the Generations Program.

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Choose between...

NUREMBERG CITY WALK & ART BUNKER VISIT

Set out on a panoramic drive towards Nuremberg's Old Town. Along the way, look out the window to catch a glimpse of several interesting sites, including the former SS Barracks, Nuremberg's train station, and the old city walls. You'll get off the bus near the castle for a walking tour of the historic neighborhood surrounding it, then descend underground to find a secret Nazi art bunker hidden beneath the castle.

In the medieval period, a network of tunnels was built under the castle hill, and parts of these tunnels were later turned into an artifact preservation bunker during World War II. The Nazis stored several highly valuable and symbolic items here to keep them safe from Allied air raids, including the imperial regalia of the Holy Roman Empire, looted artifacts from occupied nations, and paintings by Albrecht Dürer, a German painter whose home you'll have passed on your tour through the Old Town.

Please note: you may find it beneficial to bring a warm jacket with you on this tour, as the art bunker naturally sits at around 55°C.

or

NUREMBERG CITY TOUR WITH WWII RALLY GROUNDS AND DOCUMENTATION CENTER VISITS

Hitler considered Nuremberg the perfect expression of German culture (partly because of its significance in the Holy Roman Empire, which he called the First Reich), and so beginning in 1927, he chose to hold his massive rallies in the city. By 1933, his favorite architect, Albert Speer, had designed the vast Nazi Party Rally Grounds, where thousands upon thousands of Nazi troops saluted Hitler. (Leni Riefenstahl captured these events in her famous propaganda film *Triumph of the Will*.) Not all of Speer's plans were executed, and some of his grandiose structures were bombed out of existence, but the remainder stand as vivid testimony to Hitler's megalomania. A four-square-mile (10-square-kilometer) complex known as Zeppelin Fields contains parade

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grounds and a huge grandstand, the excavation site where a stadium for 400,000 people was begun—the hole is now filled with water—and the half-finished Congress Hall.

NOTE: The permanent exhibition at the Documentation Center will be closed until the fall of 2024. In its place, a special temporary exhibition may be available.

DAY 8 NUREMBERG (DISEMBARK)

Disembark the ship. If your cruise package includes a group departure transfer or if you purchased a private departure transfer, you will be transferred to Nuremberg Airport for your flight.



WHAT'S INCLUDED



DINING

All meals onboard, prepared using the finest and freshest ingredients

7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners

Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions

Welcome and Farewell Gala Dinners

Unlimited beverages onboard, including fine wine, beer, spirits, specialty coffee and tea, soft drinks and mineral water



EXCURSIONS

6 days of excursions, all fully hosted by English-speaking local experts

Guided "Let's Go" program

State-of-the-art Quietvox portable audio-headset system on all excursions

Use of bicycles and Nordic walking sticks



ACCOMMODATIONS

7-night cruise in a riverview stateroom on the regal *River Princess*

Lavishly appointed riverview staterooms and suites have handcrafted Savoir® Beds of England, high thread count 100% Egyptian cotton sheets and European duvets, and a menu of pillow options

Free Internet and Wi-Fi access



EXPERIENCES

2 countries: Austria, Germany

3 UNESCO World Heritage sites

Group Transfers are included on arrival and departure days (please see terms and conditions for transfer guidelines)

Gratuities for onboard personnel (ship staff, crew, Cruise/Tour Manager) are included during the cruise/tour

Services of an experienced Uniworld Cruise Manager