



Jewels of the
DANUBE
RIVER

September 15-25, 2015

PRAGUE - NUREMBERG - ENGELHARTSZELL - MELK - VIENNA - BUDAPEST



Jewels of the **DANUBE** RIVER

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USS Tours is pleased to offer this exciting European vacation package and Danube River cruise. Escape with us as we embark on a luxurious floating hotel, the MS Vivaldi, on the beautiful Danube River. Your adventure begins with a four night pre-cruise package that includes three nights in Prague and one night in Nuremberg. Everything has been planned for you to sit back and absorb the unique cultures and scenery of these charming towns rich in history. Due to the size of this ship and its popularity, we are limited to only 20 staterooms. Advance deposits and reservations are necessary in order to take advantage of this unique and all inclusive vacation.

VACATION INCLUDES:

- Transfers to Local Airport
- International airfare to Prague & from Budapest
- Three nights in Prague with sightseeing & meals
- One night in Nuremberg with sightseeing & meals
- 6-Day river cruise aboard the MS Vivaldi
- Upgraded shore excursions in each port
- All meals and standard cocktails on the ship
- All on board gratuities & guide gratuities
- All baggage handling
- Pat Brown Escort



PRAGUE



NUREMBERG

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Springfield, OH - Prague, Czech Republic

This morning we will transfer to your departing airport for your overnight flight to Prague. **In Flight Meals**

DAY 2: Arrive Prague

Arrive in **Prague** & transfer by coach with a local guide to the Prague city center hotel for a three-night stay. Prior to hotel check-in, a one hour guided walk around the hotel neighborhood is planned to orient everyone with the area. After check-in, take some time to relax prior to a welcome dinner in this beautiful city. **B in Flight, D**

DAY 3: Prague Castle Area, Lesser Town, Charles Bridge, Old Town with Jewish Quarter

After breakfast, we board our deluxe bus and after a short drive, we reach the **Prague Castle** area up on a hill above the city. Before you walk down the old castle stairs to the Lesser Town, a visit to the charming Golden Lane is a must. After a stroll around **Lesser Town Square** we will reach the **Charles Bridge**, the most unique gallery of sculptures on the continent, including 28 statues of saints. **The Church of Our Lady before Tyn** dating from the end of the 14th century and the **Baroque St. Nicholas Church** will also pique your interest. Proceed along Parizska Street until you see the Early-Gothic Old-New Synagogue – the Prague monument of the former Jewish ghetto. Further down the street and behind the Synagogue is the **Old Jewish Cemetery** with 20,222 tombstones, some dating back to 1439. The afternoon will be free to explore Prague. For beer lovers, Prague is the closest thing to heaven on earth with many local breweries & brew pubs. For shoppers, cut-glass crystal & amber jewelry are excellent souvenirs from the city. A group dinner at a local restaurant has been scheduled. **B, D**

DAY 4: Prague - Nelahozeves Chateau

After breakfast, it is time to board a coach with a local guide for our journey into the Czech countryside to the **Nelahozeves Chateau**. This monumental castle is one of



MS VIVALDI

Bohemia's finest Renaissance castles and is located in a small village of the same name, approximately 15 miles north of Prague on the Vltava River. It is known also as the birthplace of the great Czech composer, Antonín Dvořák. A group lunch is scheduled at the Chateau. Upon returning to Prague, the rest of the day is free. A farewell dinner in Prague is planned this evening. **B, L, D**

DAY 5: Prague - Pilsen - Nuremberg

After breakfast & hotel checkout, your coach & guide is waiting to take you to your next overnight destination, **Nuremberg, Germany**. Along the way, there will be a stop for lunch included in **Pilsen, Czech Republic**. Upon arrival in Nuremberg, the coach will take you on a brief panoramic tour of the city followed by a guided city walk of about 2 hours. Nuremberg is a city with medieval flair. Once an imperial residence, a powerful free imperial city, and an international trading center, this prosperous city provided the ideal basis for an active cultural and intellectual life and for the arts. The citizens of Nuremberg are well known for their love of eating and drinking, so it comes as no surprise that through the centuries a number of culinary specialties have developed, and visitors should take every opportunity to try all the delicious local offerings. A local dinner will be included near our hotel. **B, L, D**

DAY 6: Nuremberg - Regensburg - Passau - Engelhartzell, Austria - Board the MS Vivaldi

After breakfast & hotel checkout, we board a German coach with a local guide to take you to the ship in **Engelhartzell, Austria** on the Danube River. Prior to ship embarkation, you will visit the city of **Regensburg & Passau, Germany**. Regensburg is a city with more than 2,500 years of history. Explore the historic downtown with its houses from the 13th to the 15th Century and cross the Steinerne Brücke (Stone Bridge), which has carried traders and tourists across the Danube since the 1100s.

In Regensburg, the churches, patrician mansions, towers, Roman walls, and other historic structures are 'originals', since Regensburg escaped damage from Allied bombs in World War II. An early group lunch will be served in Passau prior to a city walking tour of Passau. Passau is located on the Austrian border in the extreme southeast of Germany. Situated at the confluence of the rivers Danube, Inn and Ilz, Passau is known worldwide as "The Three Rivers City". Later this afternoon we will board our ship to begin this amazing Danube River cruise in Engelhartzell, Austria at around 6:00 PM. Now relax and unpack as your river cruise begins aboard the **MS Vivaldi**. Built in 2009, this beautiful river boat has 88 cabins and hosts only 176 international guests. This evening meet your crew during a welcome cocktail reception followed by your welcome dinner on board. The ship sails east during the overnight hours. **B, L, D**

DAY 7: Melk - Dürnstein - Vienna, Austria

Today you'll have breakfast on board, and then you can join us for an INCLUDED/UPGRADED excursion to the **Benedictine Abbey of Melk** which is perched up high on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Danube. It is an example of Austrian baroque at its finest. We'll return on board around 11:00 AM and head toward **Dürnstein**, arriving there for lunch around 12:30 PM. Dürnstein is the most well-known picturesque village in the Wachau Valley, and it is famous for King Richard the Lionhearted having been held prisoner in its castle perched above the village. You'll enjoy a free afternoon to discover this village and its baroque church for yourself. We'll return on board around 3:30 PM before cruising on to **Vienna**. You'll have dinner on board before we reach our destination at around 8:30 PM. After we arrive, we'll go on an INCLUDED/UPGRADED tour of the illuminated sights of Vienna by Night. We'll remain in port overnight in Vienna. **B, L, D**



BUDAPEST

VIENNA

DAY 8: Vienna, Austria

After breakfast, you can take part in the INCLUDED/UPGRADED visit to the **Schönbrunn Palace**, which was the summer residence of the Emperor of Austria and his family. We'll return for lunch on board, then you can enjoy a free afternoon to tour this magnificent city on your own. We'll head back to the boat by 7:00 PM for dinner before sailing on towards Budapest, passing **Bratislava** on the way. We'll cruise through the night and enjoy our gala dinner and evening on board. **B, L, D**

DAY 9: Esztergom – Budapest

We'll have breakfast on board before you disembark to visit **Esztergom** at your own pace. The city was the former capital of Hungary, under the reign of the Arpad kings. It is still a prominent town as it is the seat of the Hungarian archbishops. Esztergom is full of treasures with its neo-classic basilica and former Royal Palace. The boat departs around 12:00 Noon to arrive in **Budapest** around 4:00 PM. The Hungarian capital, which lies along the banks of the Danube and is also known as the "pearl of the Danube", is one of the most attractive cities in Europe. You'll enjoy some free time to explore the city on your own before returning on board for dinner. This evening join us for an INCLUDED/UPGRADED visit of Budapest by Night. Overnight is in Budapest. **B, L, D**

DAY 10: Budapest

You'll enjoy breakfast on board, then you'll have the day free, or you can join the morning INCLUDED/UPGRADED sightseeing tour of the city. Budapest embodies the contrast between the twin cities of Buda and Pest, which were separate from the other on the banks of the Danube before being reunited in 1872. Over the course of this guided tour, you will discover haughty Buda with its winding streets, Baroque palaces, Turkish baths, and royal palace from the Middle Ages. We will also visit bustling Pest, which offers a proud mixture of architectural styles. We'll return on board for lunch, after which you can enjoy a free afternoon to discover the city on your own. After dinner on board, you'll be free for the evening, or you can join us for an INCLUDED/UPGRADED folk evening with traditional dances in the city. Overnight is in Budapest. **B, L, D**

DAY 11: Budapest - Return Flight

You'll enjoy one last breakfast on board before disembarking and having a private transfer to the Budapest



International Airport for your return flight back to the USA with fond memories of this once in a lifetime river cruise on the magnificent Danube River. Upon arrival back to your home airport, a private coach awaits for your transfer back home. **B, In Flight Meals**

TOUR FARE

Upper Deck Staterooms: \$ _____ per person double occupancy
Middle Deck Staterooms: \$ _____ per person double occupancy
Lower Deck Staterooms: \$ _____ per person double occupancy

NOTE: Fares are subject to change due to foreign currency fluctuation and unforeseen increases of airfare, taxes and/or fuel surcharges. **At time of printing, an ESTIMATED AIRFARE was calculated for this trip. Tour Fare may increase or decrease prior to final payment.**

OPTIONAL INSURANCE

Complete travel protection is available and is highly recommended. Payment is due with deposit to cover pre-existing conditions. The cost is \$ ____ for all staterooms.

PAYMENT POLICY

A deposit of \$ ____ per person is due by _____ to secure your reservations and best available stateroom and location aboard the ship. Space is limited. Final payment is due no later than _____. Make checks payable to USS Tours, and send to USS Tours, 101 S. Fountain Ave. Springfield, OH 45502. Call with questions: 937-323-4948

REFUND POLICY

100% of the tour cost will be refunded on all cancellations made prior to final payment date. Cancellations made after final payment date are subject to cancellation fees assessed by airlines, hotels, attractions and ground operators.

USS TOURS MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All those purchasing a USS tour must have a current United Senior Services Membership. This policy was established to insure fairness and consistency with our members.



ESZTERGOM